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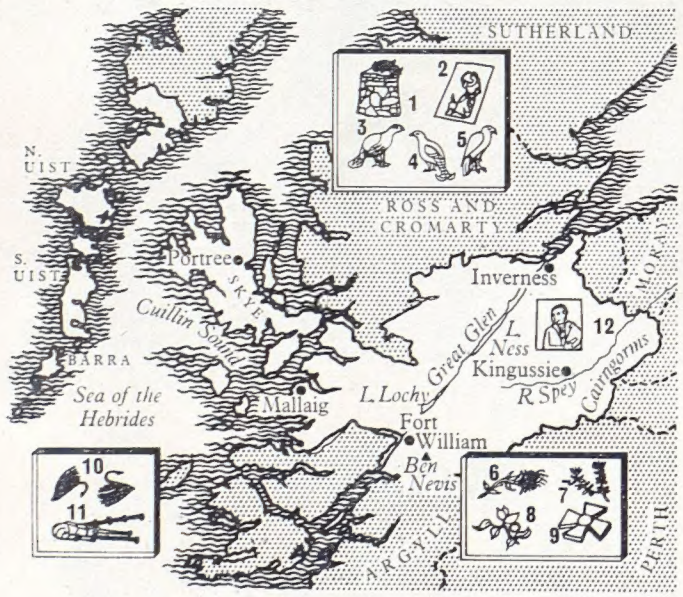
Shell guide to INVERNESS-SHIRE



Much of Inverness-shire is in a literal sense the most genuine High Land. The granite Cairngorms heave into the sky a rough plateau which is the largest area in Britain above 3,000 feet. The peak Braeriach (4,285 feet) is the third highest of British mountains. In this composite picture the Cairngorms, where some of the glacial corries keep their snow till June, rise above an aboriginal forest of Scots Pines. To the left, as a reminder of the battle of Culloden in 1746, which decided Prince Charles's fate and future, the painter has set the memorial cairn from Culloden Moor (1), which is only a few miles from Inverness. To the right – from her memorial on Castle Hill, Inverness – observe Flora Macdonald (1722-1790) (2), the heroine who helped Prince Charles to escape over the sea to Skye.

The birds are Capercailzie (3) and Black Grouse (4) and Golden Eagle (5), the plants Scotch Thistle (6), Crowberry (7) (the sharp-tasting fruits make a good jelly), and Blaeberry (8) – which the English call Whortleberry. Scottish brooches (9) recall an Inverness-shire peculiarity, "cairngorms", yellowish or black crystals from the Cairngorm granite. Other Highland items are salmon flies (10), and the pipes (11), and a portrait of James Macpherson (1736-1796) (12), the poet of the twilit poems of "Ossian", born in the mountain parish of Kingussie, at Ruthven, where he was afterwards schoolmaster for a while, before becoming one of the most famous poets of Europe.

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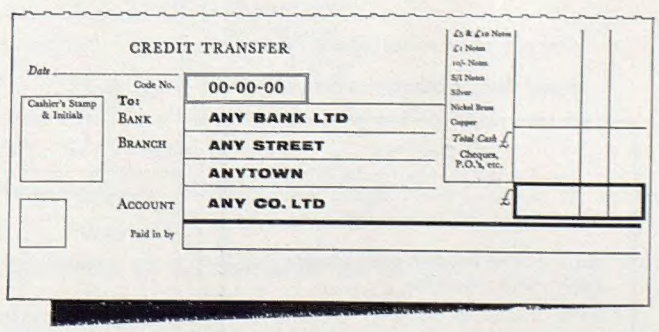

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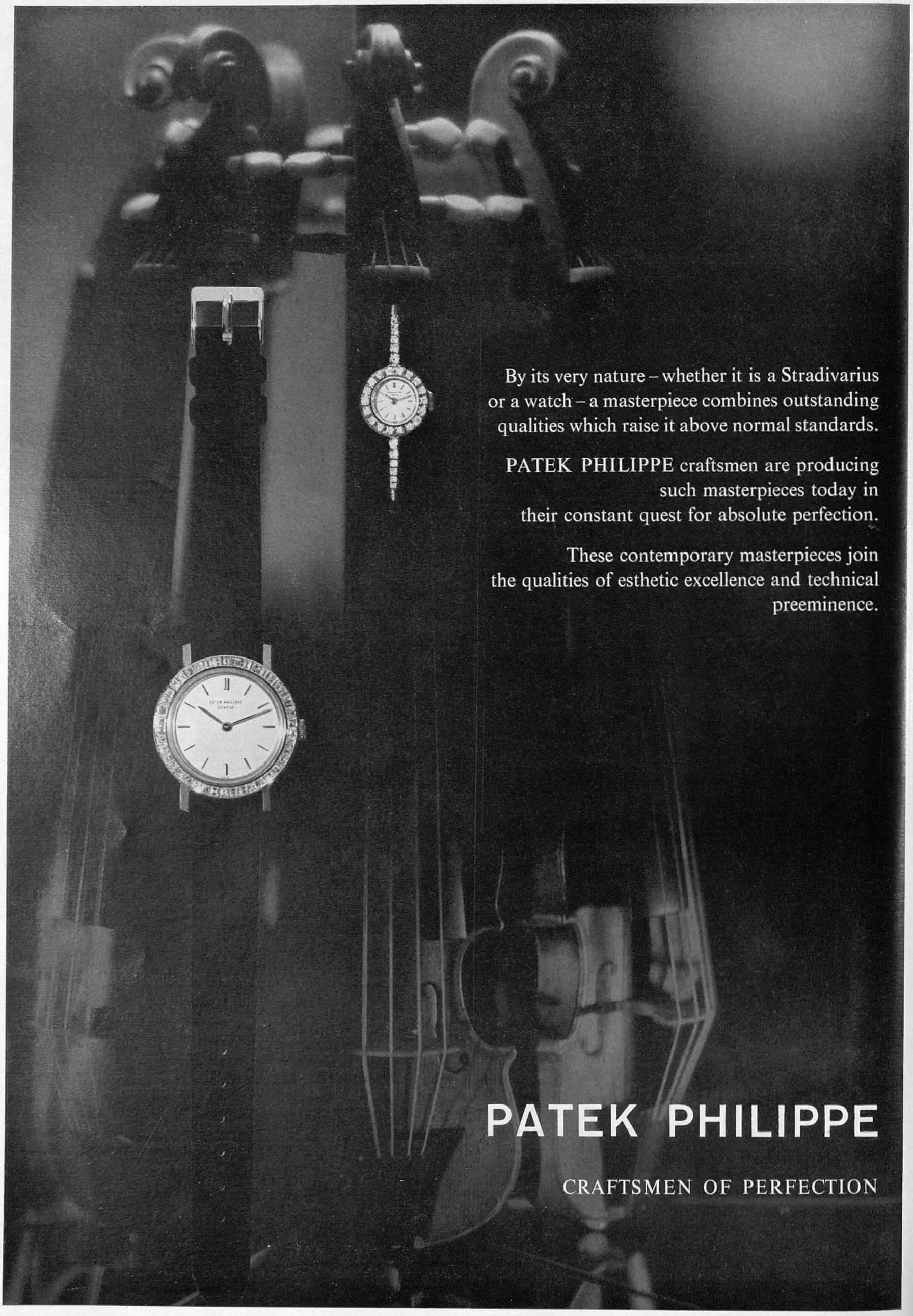
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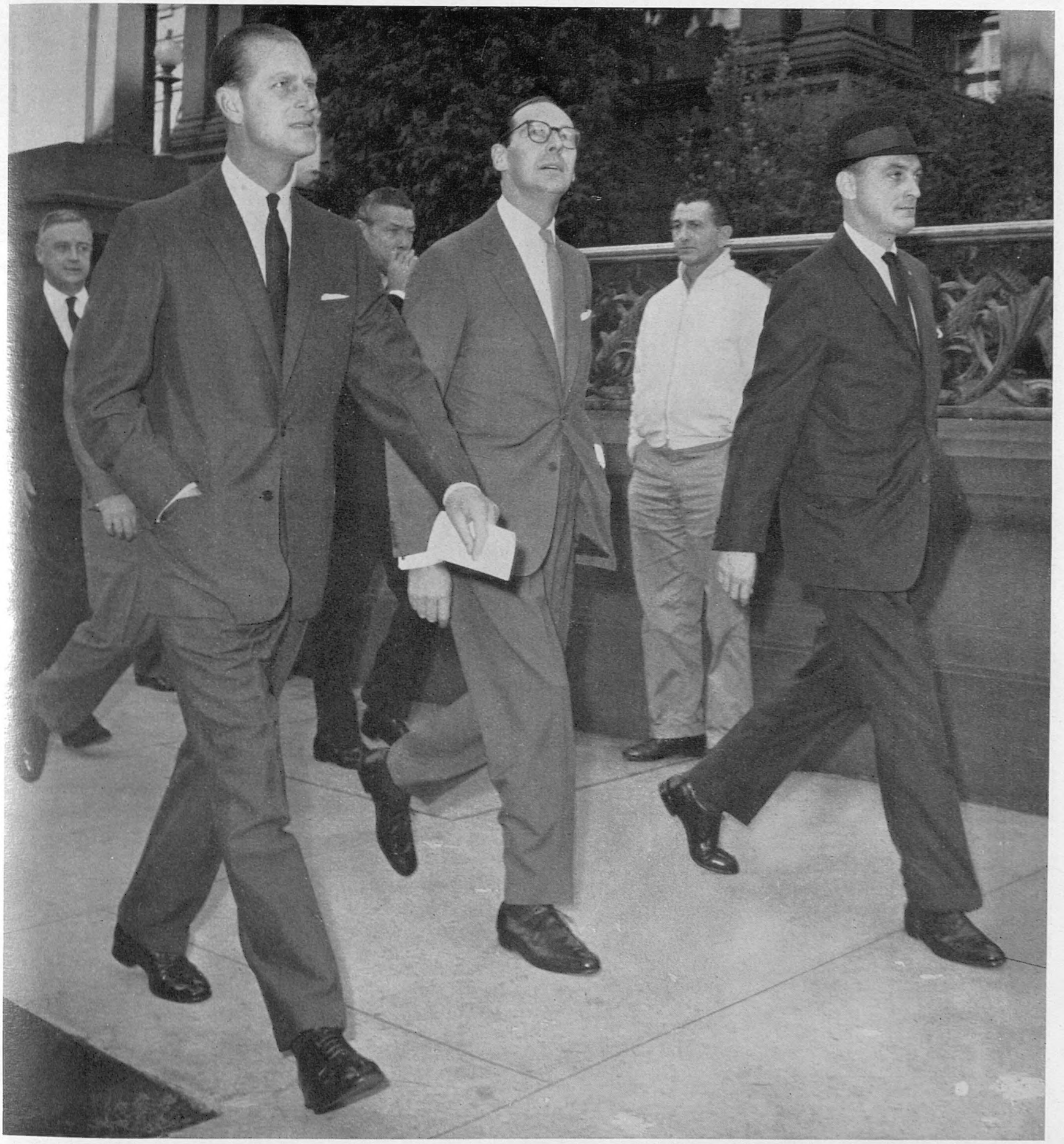

EN ROUTE TO PERTH

The Duke of Edinburgh walks from the Pacific Union Club in San Francisco accompanied by Sir David Ormsby-Gore (in glasses), the British Ambassador in the United States. The Duke was visiting San Francisco on the way to Western Australia for the opening of the Commonwealth Games this week (see pages 307-309). During his visit to the U.S. he addressed the world conference of English-Speaking Unions; he is the President of the English-Speaking Unions of the Commonwealth. He said that the world should move cautiously before taking any step which accepted political divisions as a permanent feature. The Commonwealth, which was an organic community rather than a political union, illustrated some of the conditions that are necessary to create a lasting and popular community of nations, he said. While Prince Philip was in the U.S. he appeared on a broadcast (recorded before he left Britain) in London to announce that the Queen had arranged for a work study investigation into every department of her household to start early next year. The broadcast was given to mark the opening of the National Productivity Year

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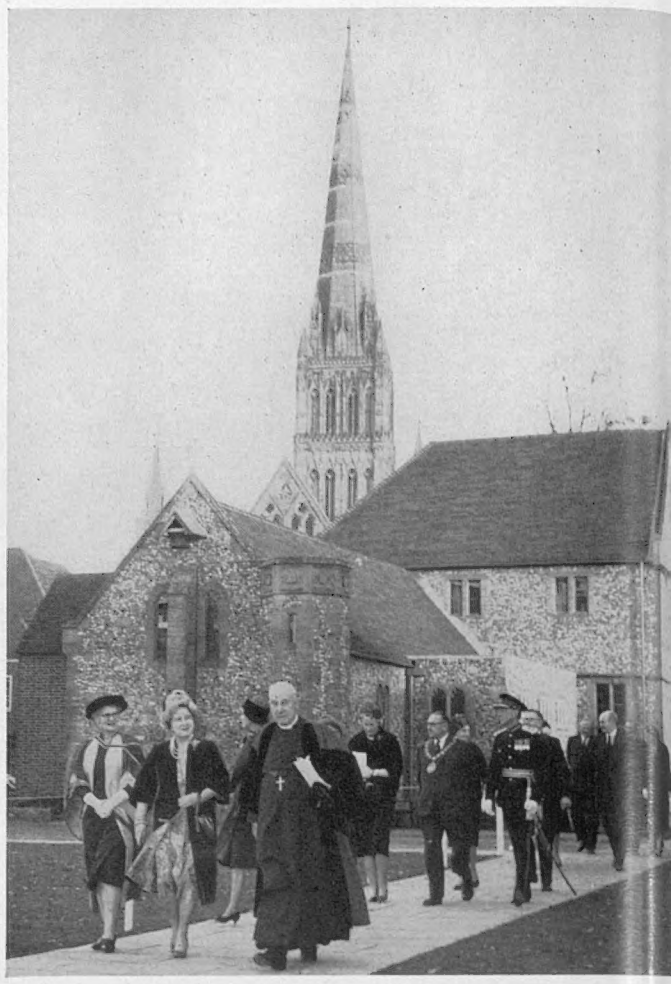
THE QUEEN VISITS THE KING'S TROOP, R.H.A.

The Queen pats one of the horses in the stables of the King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery, at their barracks in St. John's Wood, London. Her Majesty was welcomed for her visit last week by the Commanding Officer of the King's Troop, Major P. R. Heaton-Ellis. The officers and men of the Troop are the only remaining horse gunners in the Army and are engaged solely on ceremonial duties—for instance, the firing of Royal salutes in Hyde Park



A NEW WING FOR SALISBURY TRAINING COLLEGE

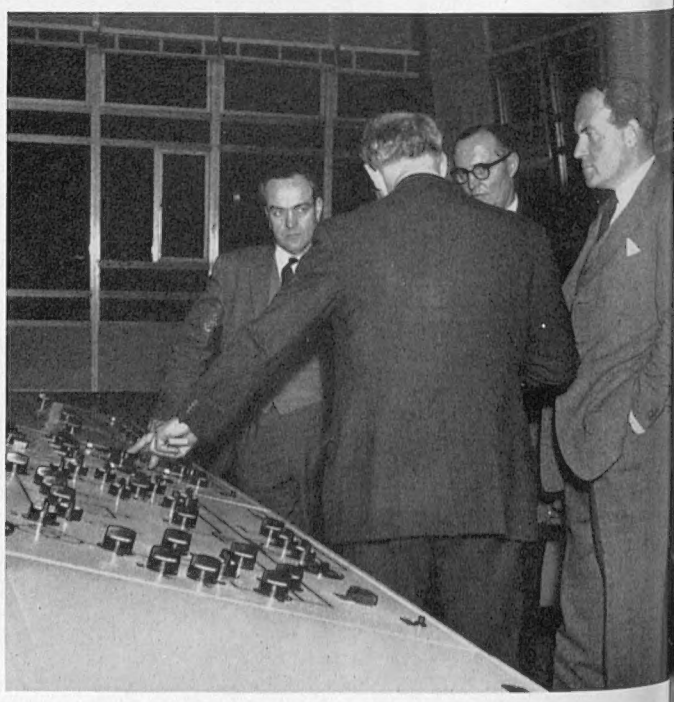
Far right: Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother walks across the quadrangle of the Salisbury Training College accompanied by the Bishop of Salisbury, Dr. Anderson. The spire of Salisbury's cathedral rises in the background. The Queen Mother was in Salisbury to open the Training College's new buildings, which include a hall with a stage, a music wing with practising rooms, and a hostel built on the staircase plan able to accommodate some 64 students. The college is one of the Church of England's training colleges for teachers, and has 300 students, including some from overseas

MR. IKEDA AND THE LOVING CUP

AT THE ANTI-LOCUST RESEARCH CENTRE

Mr. Hayato Ikeda, the Japanese Prime Minister, drinks from a loving cup at the Lord Mayor of London's annual banquet at the Guildhall. Holding the lid is Madame Ohno, the wife of the Japanese Ambassador in London. The last full day of the Japanese Premier's official visit to Britain last week was marked by the signing at Lancaster House of an Anglo-Japanese commercial treaty. It was agreed, after the treaty was signed, that Lord Home, the Foreign Secretary, would visit Japan early in 1963

Far right: Mr. Fazlul Quadir Choudhury (third from left), the Pakistani Minister of Education and Information, is shown locust eggs in the Anti-Locust Research Centre in Kensington. From left are an officer (masked) of the Centre; Dr. Haskell; Mr. Choudhury; Mr. Khaliq, Educational Attaché at the Pakistan High Commission; Mr. Rahmin and Mr. Haroon, Managing Director of the Pakistan newspaper *Dawn*. Mr. Choudhury was on a short visit to Britain

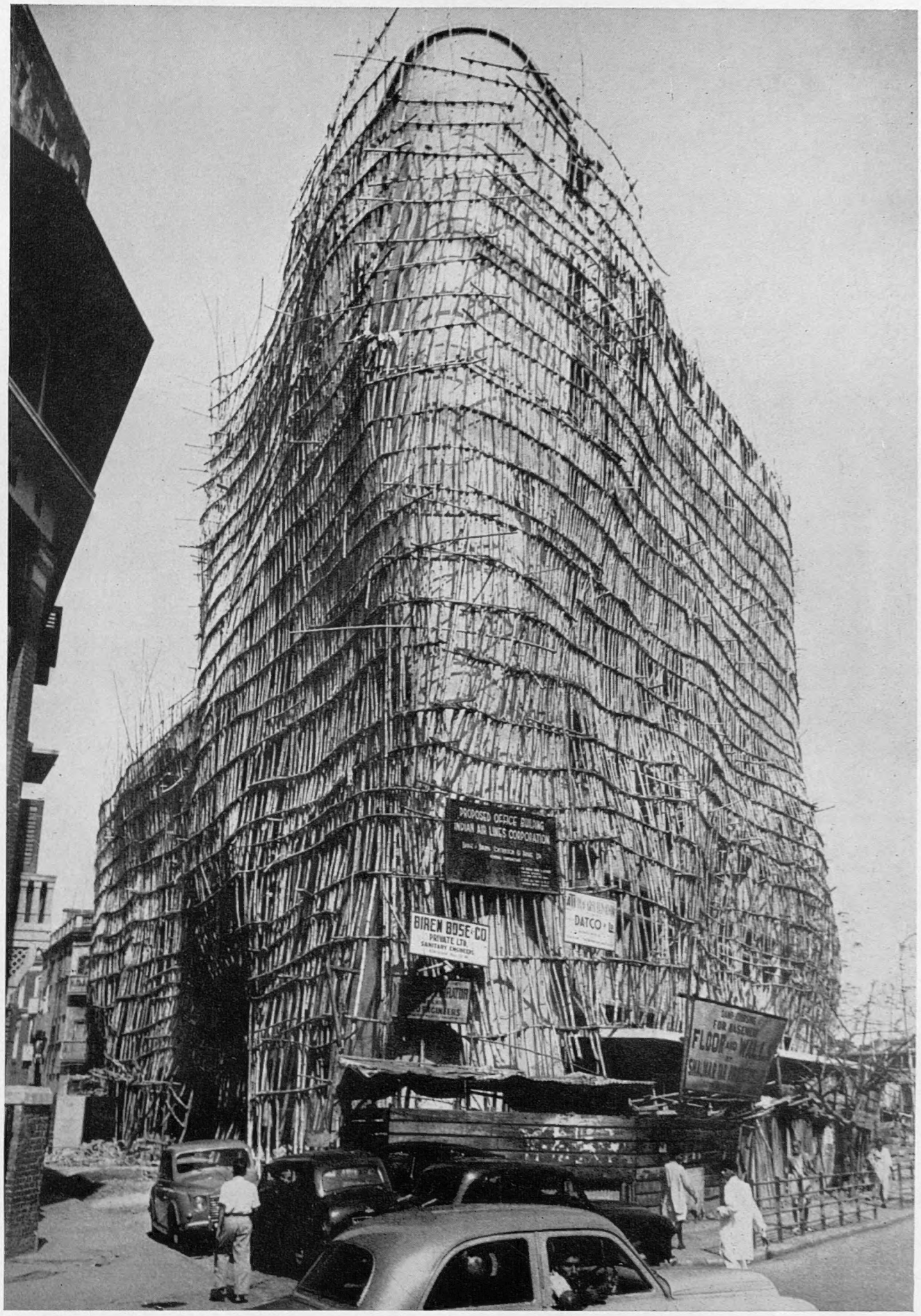


THE MINISTER OF POWER GOES BY HELICOPTER TO VISIT POWER STATIONS IN KENT

Mr. Richard Wood, the Minister of Power, prepares to enter a helicopter at Battersea Heliport, London, to fly to the Dungeness, Kent, nuclear power station of the Central Electricity Generating Board. He also paid a visit to Lydd converter station, the British terminal point of the cross-Channel cable which transmits electric power between France and Britain. **Far right:** Mr. Wood is shown round the control room at Lydd

THE NEWS IN PICTURES

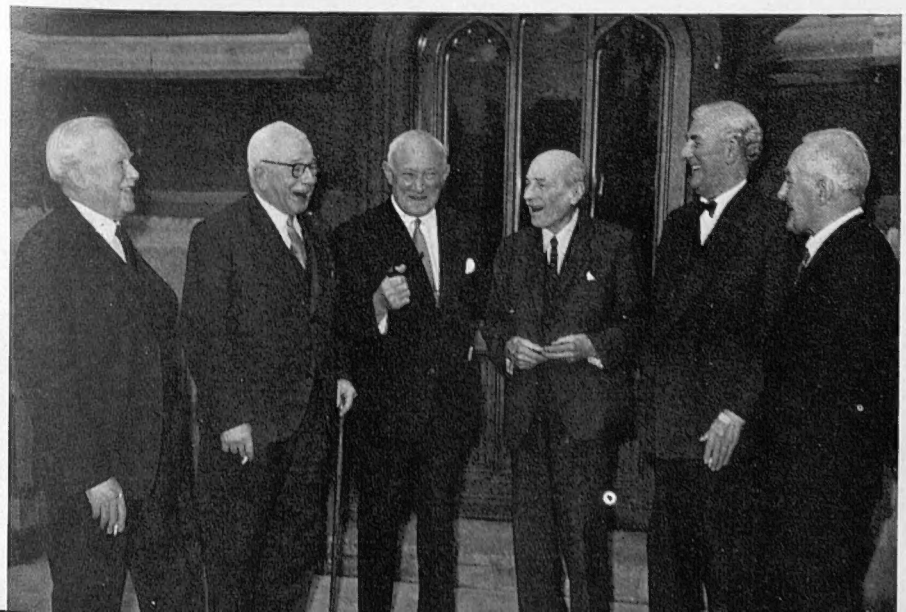
Modestly concealed behind a screen of bamboo scaffolding, work proceeds on the construction of a massive new office block in Calcutta, India. Now nearing completion, the building is to house the offices of the Indian Air Lines Corporation. Bamboo is used as scaffolding throughout much of the Far East



BUILDING METHODS IN INDIA—A NEW OFFICE BLOCK IN CALCUTTA

Below: On the terrace of the Houses of Parliament are six members of the Labour Party whose ages total 462 years. From left they are: Mr. George Oliver, Q.C., M.P. for Ilkeston, who is 73; Lord Alexander of Hillsborough, who is 77; Mr. Emmanuel Shinwell, M.P. for Easington, who is 78; Earl Attlee, who is 79; Lord Williams of Barnborough, who is 74; and Lord Lawson, who is 81. The occasion was a luncheon given by Mr. Shinwell to Labour Party members who have been Parliamentary figures for forty years. A sixth guest, Lord Hall, was unable to attend. Host and guests first came together in the House of Commons following the 1922 General Election

LABOUR PARTY VETERANS IN PARLIAMENT



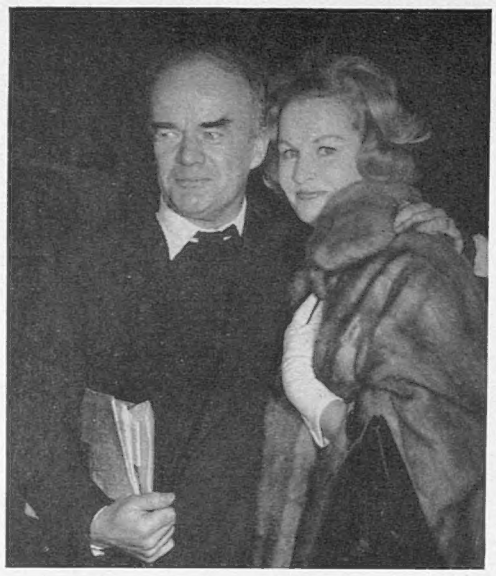
Below right: Debris round the remains of an automatic telephone exchange in the Essex village of Takeley. The exchange, which was unmanned, was shattered last week by an explosion believed to have been caused when a slight spark from the electrical equipment ignited a gas leakage which had entered the building. The explosion, which hurled window frames and joists over housetops, and shattered windows and roofs, injured six people and damaged nearly 200 houses. In one garden a tree was uprooted, demolishing an outhouse and wrecking a car as it fell. The bang was heard at Dunmow five miles away. The day after, the village was experiencing the rallying round to help one another that always characterises such emergencies

A BIG BANG IN AN ESSEX VILLAGE

THE NEWS IN PICTURES

A ROYAL NAVY OILER DRIVEN ON THE ROCKS AT HARTLAND POINT

The Fleet auxiliary tanker *Green Ranger* is pounded by heavy seas as she lies on the rocks at Hartland Point in North Devon. She was blown ashore last weekend in a 70-m.p.h. gale after she had broken adrift from the tug *Caswell* towing her to South Wales for a refit. Lifeboats were unable to reach the *Green Ranger*, but after repeated attempts in the rain, hail and gales, a line was got aboard the vessel and the seven members of the crew rescued by breeches buoy. As freezing gales and blizzards of snow swept much of Britain, there were a number of tragedies round the coast. Nine people were drowned when the Seaham, County Durham, lifeboat capsized returning from a rescue mission. **Below right:** At Paddington Station, London, Mr. John Cronin, M.P., is with his wife after travelling back to London following his rescue from the rough seas off the Pembrokeshire coast. He was one of the four men saved from a Royal Navy helicopter, flying from the aircraft carrier *Hermes*, which crashed in rough seas. Lord Windlesham, the Liberal Peer, was drowned. Wide searches for him by ships and aircraft were carried out in the gale. He and Mr. Cronin had been at sea with the *Hermes* on her working-up exercises



SURVIVOR OF A HELICOPTER CRASH

AN OBEDIENT LEADER OF A COLONY IN RUSSIA'S MODERN EMPIRE

Far right: Mr. Zhivkov (extreme right), the First Secretary of the Bulgarian Communist party, talks with delegates during a break in the proceedings of the party's congress in Sofia. At the opening session he caused a sensation by announcing the dismissal from office of Mr. Yugov, the Prime Minister, and his expulsion from the party. Several other senior Communists were also expelled. Mr. Zhivkov was in Moscow just before the congress and was obviously acting under Mr. Khrushchev's orders. Another recent visitor to Moscow has been President Novotny of Czechoslovakia. As a result a number of senior government officials in Prague were dismissed

RUSSIAN TRAWLERS IN THE CHANNEL

Some of a fleet of nearly 100 Russian and Polish deep-sea trawlers and drifters engaged in fishing operations in the English Channel over a ten-mile stretch of water about 20 miles south-east of Dover. Among the fleet were depot and factory ships. The ships had gathered for shelter in bad weather off the Kent coast earlier last week and then resumed trawling operations. But as the gales and blizzards moved south and west last weekend, with warnings of northerly gales in the English Channel, the Russian and Polish vessels again sought shelter, anchoring near the Kent coast

NEWS SUMMARY

Setbacks for India; the Russian-Chinese slanging match; more pay for M.P.s?; France swings to de Gaulle; cabinet crisis in West Germany; Kenya's Governor surprise; Aden's opposition to British plan

INTERNATIONAL

In the Indian border fighting the Chinese captured **Walong**, at the eastern end of the North East Frontier Agency, during the weekend. Simultaneously the Chinese opened a major offensive at the other end of the North East Frontier, advancing from Tawang to take the vital position of **Se La** Ridge (13,000 feet up) and thus opening the way to **Tezpur.** Mr. Nehru announced this " grievous news " to the Indian Parliament on Monday. On the North West Frontier the lull was broken by a drive by heavy Chinese forces on **Chusul** in Ladakh.

It was learnt in **Delhi** that the British Government had told the Indian Government that the British arms being sent were for use only against the Chinese. It was believed this step had been taken to allay Pakistani apprehensions about the British arms supply. Whether Russia would honour its undertakings to send MiG fighters to India, given before the start of the present frontier fighting, remained a matter for speculation. (Other news from India on page 298.)

In **Moscow** the newspaper *Pravda* carried an article attacking the Albanians for their critical attitude towards Russia's conduct in the Cuba crisis and withdrawal of the missiles from there. It was clearly intended that " Chinese " should be read for " Albanian " throughout the article. With less subtlety the Chinese openly denounced Russia's behaviour over Cuba in several **Pekin** newspapers. Russia, it was said, had " been scared stiff " by the U.S.A. Meanwhile in **New York** secret negotiations continued behind the scenes in the United Nations, between U Thant and the American, Russian and Cuban representatives to settle the Cuban problem.

Strong protests were made by Britain to Russia and Hungary regarding the arrest in **Budapest** of the British businessman, Mr. G. M. Wynne, on charges of alleged espionage, and his extradition to Russia. Mr. Wynne was believed to have been flown to Russia under guard.

A forecast that Britain would become a member of the E.E.C. on January 1, 1964, was given by Mr. H. R. Van Houten, Netherlands Foreign Minister, during the course of the negotiations in **Brussels** between Mr. Heath and the Six last week.

GREAT BRITAIN

Polling took place in five by-elections on November 22. The Conservatives were defending majorities in all five—Glasgow Woodside, South Northants, Chippenham, South Dorset and Central Norfolk—against a full field of opponents, including a Scottish Nationalist in Glasgow; a Tory Anti-Common Market rebel in South Dorset, Sir Piers Debenham; and a clutch of ex-servicemen. The Common Market was one of the key issues in the campaigning: another was unemployment.

While the country was electing five new M.P.s, Mr. Macmillan was due to meet an all-party delegation to discuss a demand for an increase in M.P.s' salaries. Present income is £1,000 a year plus £750 expenses.

The Vassall case last week produced a fresh surprise at Westminster. Mr. Macmillan decided to appoint an independent three-man Tribunal, with Lord Radcliffe as chairman, under the Tribunals of Inquiry (Evidence) Act of 1921. (The Opposition had strongly demanded such an inquiry.) It will deal with the security aspects of the case and in addition the vast amount of speculation it sparked off. Further public speculation is now barred since the affair is *sub judice*. The tribunal was to hold its first meeting this week.

President Kennedy and Dr. Adenauer during the latter's visit to Washington

FRANCE

A total of 2,170 candidates contested the elections for the 465 home seats in the National Assembly, dissolved by General de Gaulle after the overthrow of the Pompidou Government in October. Voting by the 27,500,000 electors takes place in two ballots, the first last Sunday, the second this Sunday. To be elected on the first ballot, a candidate had to obtain an absolute majority of votes, representing at least one quarter of the electoral role. On the second poll, only a simple majority is needed.

Last Sunday, with about half the votes counted, most political commentators in France were confounded. In an unusually low poll, only partly attributed to the weather, Gaullists and candidates backing General de Gaulle scored heavily all over France. They had registered just over 30 per cent. of the first 13,000,000 votes counted, and the Communists nearly 20 per cent. Of 95 deputies elected, 58 were Gaullists. From these results it appeared that the Gaullists may obtain a majority in the Assembly and usurp the position of the Communists as the largest single party in France. But much depends on the second ballot, when many unsuccessful candidates withdraw to form electoral alliances.

WEST GERMANY

Dr. Adenauer returned to **Bonn** from his visit to President Kennedy to face the cabinet crisis which had arisen again over the *Der Spiegel* affair. The Free Democrats, partners in the Government with Dr. Adenauer's Christian Democrats, were threatening to withdraw unless Herr Strauss resigned from the Defence Ministry. Without the Free Democrats the Chancellor would not have a majority in the Bundestag.

AFRICA

A report in **Nairobi** that Sir Patrick Renison had resigned as Governor of Kenya was later confirmed in London by Mr. Sandys, the Colonial Secretary. It was announced that the new Governor was to be Mr. Malcolm Macdonald, one of Britain's most distinguished diplomat-politicians, recently co-chairman of the Laos Conference. Previously, Mr. Jomo Kenyatta had threatened to lead his majority Kanu party out of the coalition Government unless elections are held in the spring and a date for independence is fixed for before the end of 1963.

The Congo continued to simmer. An ultimatum from the U.N. to M. Tshombe, President of Katanga, expired without having the desired result of persuading him to accept the U.N. plan for reintegration of Katanga with the Central Government. U Thant, the U.N. Acting Secretary-General, was reported once again to be considering economic sanctions, which, once again, appeared to be supported by the U.S.A., but not by Britain and Belgium. The armed strength of Katanga was said to be greater than at the time of the fighting in **Elisabethville** a year ago.

In **Leopoldville,** senators and deputies continued to fail to appear in sufficient numbers to enable the parliament to meet, and hence to accept Premier Adoula's new constitution. President Kasavubu declared a state of emergency in Leopoldville Province because of a wave of lawlessness. Other reports from the Congo dealt with the extent of its economic crisis (not as severe as had been thought), the apparent eclipse of M. Munongo, once held to be M. Tshombe's *eminence grise*, and the election of " Miss Katanga."

MIDDLE EAST

The proposal to merge **Aden** with the Federation of South Arabia continued to meet strong opposition. A 24-hour general strike was due on Monday of this week to protest against the merger, against anti-strike legislation, and against the ill-treatment of trade union leaders. Mr. Husseiny, Minister of Education, resigned over the British decision to proceed with the merger in spite of local opposition.

In **Yemen** troops and tribesmen, loyal to the Imam, continued to do battle in the north against forces believed to be a mixture of supporters of President Sallal, the Republican leader, and Egyptians.

MARTIAL MOODS IN ASIA

Attacks by Indian patrols at the eastern end of the Himalaya and massive counter-attacks by thousands of Chinese troops were reported towards the end of last week from the North East Frontier, near Walong (close to the Burmese border). All appeared to be quiet on the North West Frontier. Throughout India demonstrations continued of the martial spirit aroused by the Chinese invasion. Recruiting stations were still being besieged by volunteers, and in some cities all-night sessions of prayers for victory were being held. The tribes of Nagaland who had been fighting the Indians were understood to have proposed a cease-fire while India was fighting the Chinese. As was expected, Mr. Chavan, Chief Minister of Maharashtra, was appointed Defence Minister.

The martial spirit manifested itself elsewhere in Asia. In Phnom Penh, the Cambodians put on a monster parade before Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the Head of Government, to mark Independence Day. In South Vietnam the long civil war against Vietcong (Communist) guerrillas went on in terrain described by one observer as the " most difficult " he had ever seen.

Two men chanting in a street in Delhi during an all-night prayer session for victory against China

Mr. Y. B. Chavan

Prince Norodom Sihanouk

Mr. Nehru addresses a mass rally in the Ramlila grounds in Delhi. He said they must be prepared for Chinese bombing of Indian cities

mbodian troops stand with their arms crossed as they drive in tanks during the Independence Day parade in Phnom Penh, the capital of Cambodia

th Vietnamese soldiers operating against Communist guerrillas wade across a creek. The bridge across it had been destroyed by the Communists

JOHN CONNELL

THE LONG SLITHER TO WAR

It is impossible for anyone of my generation, even after the lapse of over a quarter of a century, to write with real and sustained detachment about the conduct of British diplomacy in the 1930s. The fevers of partisanship have long since passed, but their after-effects remain with us and will remain, I suppose, so long as we are sentient beings. Lord Avon's new volume of Memoirs, THE EDEN MEMOIRS: *Facing the Dictators* (Cassell. 42s.), inevitably reawakens, into a vivid and startlingly passionate semblance of their former selves, those old passions. We cared about sanctions and the Reichstag trial; about Haile Selassie in exile, and the British battalion in the International Brigade; about the murders of Dollfuss, King Alexander of Yugoslavia and M. Barthou; about the long, slow, inexorable slither to the war we dreaded.

" This, " thundered a left-wing pamphleteer in September 1943, " was the most infamous and disgraceful period in British history. The statesmen who went to Rome and Berlin ' entered smiling into the Triphonian Cave and came out sad and serious conspirators.' They were in effect parties to the subjugation of Europe. But as their hearts had waxed fat, as their ears were dull of hearing and as their eyes were closed they hardly even knew the measure of their shame."

Lord Avon, as Mr. Anthony Eden, was the most persistent and pertinacious of those statesmen who went to Rome and Berlin—and Moscow too—but how little of this fiercely distorted indictment seems, under the scrutiny of history, even faintly applicable to him. His is a

Mr. Anthony Eden walks with Sir John Simon (left) in 1933. At that time Simon was Foreign Secretary and Eden Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. The latter was promoted Lord Privy Seal in 1934 and became Foreign Secretary, for the first time, in 1935

salutary story, told with refreshing candour, with ease, good manners, common sense and an exemplary restraint. He himself has nothing to hide and nothing to be ashamed of; and even his colleagues, Chamberlain, Simon and Hoare, are guiltless of Cassius's cruder charges. They were, for the most part, foolish and well-intentioned, and not ignoble, conspiratorial or callous.

In fact their melancholy succession of blunders, which led us so falteringly and so pitifully to war, were the consequences of virtues rather than vices. They hated the idea of war so much that they would sacrifice anything in the sad, vain hope of avoiding it. But their greatest mistake—and of this, after 1936, Lord Avon must be absolved—was that they trusted Hitler and they trusted Mussolini.

This, I think, is the real theme of Lord Avon's narrative: the rift which deepened between himself and his colleagues in the National Government; the difference between them was never about ends, but, more profoundly and more sadly, about means; but he, when he faced the dictators, was young enough, sensitive enough, and intelligent enough, to see through their duplicity, and his good, well-intentioned colleagues were deceived and pathetically deceived themselves. They were not cold and calculating brutes, or traitors; they were run-of-the-mill elected representatives of a peace-loving universal suffrage democracy. Lord Avon's portraits of them are percipient, frank and just. He is as aware of their virtues as much as of their faults, of their kindness as of their occasional slyness. For there is no doubt that all his senior colleagues were, at one time or another, surprisingly yet in the ultimate analysis, I suppose, inevitably disingenuous about Eden and towards Eden.

This to me is one of the book's greatest fascinations: its quiet, cool reflection of the attitude of these elderly politicians—battered, bemused, and fairly second-rate as most of them were—towards this courteous, handsome, resolute and often difficult youth in their midst. It was as if an intelligent subaltern had suddenly been promoted to the level of Army Commander; his fellow generals accepted him amicably in their midst; so long as he played the game according to their long-established rules, they were prepared to give him a helping hand. When he became too independent-minded they withdrew into a frightened, worried and exasperated cabal.

For Eden was a young man who was as earnest as he was engaging. His elegant, diffident manner masked, but could not permanently conceal, strong opinions and high aspirations. Churchill's description of him, in a great passage in *The Second World War* (Volume I), is wisely quoted on the jacket of this book: " There seemed one strong young figure standing up against long, dismal, drawling tides of drift and surrender, of wrong measurements and feeble impulses . . . he seemed at this moment to embody the life-hope of the British nation, the grand old British race that had done so much for men, and had yet some more to give."

Lord Avon tells his story in a manner both ample and detailed, with copious (and in my view essential) documentation, from his earliest days as a junior Minister in the Foreign Office, through all his vicissitudes, to his resignation as Foreign Secretary some 18 months before the outbreak of the Second World War. The British Empire had passed the zenith of its power, but his Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom continued to exercise a majestic authority in world affairs; young Mr. Eden, at the League of Nations' Assembly in Geneva, and on his incessant and arduous journeyings—to Berlin, to Rome, Warsaw, Prague, Paris and Moscow—was the attractive embodiment of that authority; so long as he held office there was a real degree of assurance that Britain would, in the end, stand up to the growing totalitarian threat.

What he himself only realised slowly was the manner in which his colleagues, from the best of motives, were seeking—at all costs—to evade such a challenge. It was not difficult for him to see through Mussolini's ruffianly mixture of brag, bully and bluster, and through Hitler's paranoiac mendacity. Painfully and tardily he had to be convinced that Simon, Hoare and Neville Chamberlain held radically different views from his own, and that they were prepared to ditch him if he would not adjust his policy to theirs. Simon, I think, both in character and action, takes the heaviest—if most merited—caning at Lord Avon's hands. There is something sadly but deeply repellent about this brilliant, able and industrious man.

In his later years I built up an edgy but interesting acquaintanceship with Lord Templewood; though he was a shrewd, likeable old puss, he never realised—I suspect—what a calamitous ass he made of himself at the Foreign Office, or appreciated the magnitude of the mess he got into over the Hoare-Laval agreement. Lord Avon's account of this episode, which led directly to his own appointment as Secretary of State, is absorbing, though a little lacking in compassion for the hapless Sam Hoare, with a temperature and a plaster over his nose, having to lie in bed and listen to a succession of Job's comforters, which included Baldwin, Neville Chamberlain and Geoffrey Dawson. Incidentally, that egregious, self-important, and over-praised man is effectively cut down to size. Lord Avon gives him—in this, the period in which he believed that he was exercising a minute-by-minute influence on British foreign policy—two passing references.

Lord Avon's story of his relations with Neville Chamberlain, with his own resignation as the climax, is obviously of the utmost historical importance. It clears up a great deal that has hitherto been obscured; and—in my admittedly prejudiced opinion—not the least of its merits is that it puts paid, with quiet, restrained but none the less devastating finality, to Mr. Iain Macleod's lamentable effort to resuscitate Neville Chamberlain's poor remains of a reputation. He was narrowly self-confident and ignorant, and quite unwilling to be guided by his younger, but immensely experienced, colleague. It is difficult to say which was the more pitiful, his own blundering when he himself took over total control of foreign policy, or his equivocal and evasive—indeed, to put it frankly, underhand—behaviour towards Eden. That his motives were of the best cannot be disputed, but they are really no excuse.

For here was a clash not only of generations but of personalities. Yet had Eden been of an age with the Prime Minister, could he have dealt with him as he deserved? History's " if only's " are fascinating, if unprofitable. The bleak fact remains that, while Chamberlain's thoughts and feelings were the product of the late Victorian and Edwardian era, Eden's had been moulded and tempered by his years as a young regimental officer in the first World War.

Certain lapidary sentences of T. E. Lawrence's, it seems to me, are sombrely appropriate to the Anthony Eden of these years: " When we achieved and the new world dawned, the old men came out again and took our victory to remake in the likeness of the former world they knew. Youth could win, but had not learned to keep; and it was pitiably weak against age. We stammered that we had worked for a new heaven and a new earth, and they thanked us kindly and made their peace."

They called it peace but it proved to be a road to another war's fiery desert.

CHATS IN THE FAR EAST

President Sukarno of Indonesia offers a cigarette to Colonel Kim Chong Pil, who, as the director of the South Korean Civil Intelligence Agency, is a powerful figure in that country's ruling junta. Dr. Sukarno met Colonel Kim during an informal visit to Tokyo. Before he left Jakarta for Japan, Dr. Sukarno had a short talk with General Sir Nigel Poett, the Commander in Chief of the British Far East Land Forces. **Below:** General Poett in conversation with the Indonesian President. General Poett was in Indonesia on a six-day visit at the invitation of General Jani, the Chief of Staff of the Indonesian Army. The visit included inspection of units of the Indonesian Army, an address to a staff college, and a trip to Bali, before returning to Singapore

Godrevy lighthouse, Cornwall, seen from Godrevy Point. With its latest acquisition here the National Trust now owns the whole of the Godrevy Peninsula

The Queen looks approvingly at a stall of toys and handbags in the War Disabled Ex-Servicemen's Exhibition and Sale of Work in Brompton Road, London

Left: an 1841 gold pocket watch. Right: a 1962 square-cased gold wrist-watch (with brilliants); two of the Vacheron et Constantin watches at an exhibition at the London showroom of Watches of Switzerland

A London Newsletter

13-15, JOHN ADAM STREET, W.C.2.

LEFT HAND, RIGHT HAND. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, with Cabinet approval, had armed himself in advance with solid missiles in expectation of an attack on the lethargy of his efforts in the face of growing unemployment and stagnating exports, and, as he discharged them in the Opposition's face, he took the whole House by surprise. Some said he spoke a mouthful, some a Budget. The favoured interests approved his missiles as solid stones, the less favoured called them bricks. No doubt the purchase tax reductions on cars will also favourably affect those heavy industries on whose products car manufacturers depend, and must gradually reduce unemployment in some hard-hit areas, while the increased capital allowances on building and plant and research investment must obviously benefit their intended beneficiaries. But what sounds sweet in the ears of the Ministers of Labour and Trade must ring some sort of knell in the ear of the Minister of Transport. It may be that flourishing home sales of cars are a necessary corollary to export expansion, but Mr. Marples can, in his capacity of road-safety overlord and road builder, hardly welcome another quarter-million new cars on the roads by Easter. It is one more example, in the Government's eternal struggle to stop gaps and leaks in the Nation's dyke, of how one Minister's meat is another's poison, or (to preserve the simile) of how a gap plugged here increases pressure on a gap next to it. Yet assume that "father knows best" and that solid reduction in unemployment accompanies solid improvement in exports, all surely depends on the power behind the new terms of reference of N.I.C., or rather on what *effective* powers those terms of reference can afford to the Commission. Trade expansion depends almost entirely on co-operation by the unions, and there is nothing in the day's news to suggest ready co-operation to keep wage demands in step with increased production, or even to outlaw subversive strikes.

FAREWELL, A LONG FAREWELL? I suppose it is worse in political life than in other spheres of activity suddenly to fall from the pedestal to which you have raised yourself by endless labour. For the loss of political power and exclusion from the "hub of things" can

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A view by Aerofilms of the rebuilding on the Stag Brewery site in London, including the 28-storey skyscraper, Portland House, which has a view over the grounds of Buckingham Palace

never be compensated by City Directorships or harmless hobbies for men who have devoted their lives to politics. Such men fall like Lucifer. Recently we have seen the falls, the political extinctions, of two men—Nixon and Menon. I know all too little of the minds and characters of either to pronounce with authority on their falls. But from those falls one may, tritely enough, generalise. Politics is of all professions most at the mercy of chance, of sheer luck, and to be " liked " as a man is probably more important than to be admired as a public servant. Nixon's political opinions, shared by millions of his countrymen, cannot possibly be called " unpopular," and only in recent months have events suggested the fallacies of Menon's. But neither Nixon nor Menon, it is said, possess the essential weapons against time and chance, the friendly smile, the hail-fellow-well-met, the slap on the back, that can soften a fall, avert broken bones, and even envisage a come-back.

ROYAL MNEMONIC. I cut the following from the *Daily Telegraph:*

ROYAL MNEMONIC

Sir,—The royal mnemonic which your correspondent, Mr. E. D. M. Lean, asks to have completed is as follows:

When Will His Stupid Head Remember Just How Easy Each Endeavour Remains, Having Had Help; Eclipsing Every Reasoning, Harassing, Hazy, Egotist's Method; Elaborately Jumbling, Clear, Concise, Junctures, With A Great, Grand Gravity, Giving Wit Vexation.

It is taken from a book, *Stokes on Memory*, published in 1875.

Vernon H. Whittaker.

With respect to *Stokes on Memory*, I find the cure more severe than the disease. I offer a simpler jingle that at least has a vague " argument " running through it to help memorisation of the order of British Sovereigns:

" White Winter Holds Stupendous Hopes!
Remember June—Her Eves Enchanted;
Every Rose Holds Heaven's Handsel,
Every Element Rejoices,
Haysel, Harvest, Evening Mists,
Each Joy Comes Consecutive.
Jewels Which, A Good God Granting,
Gentle Winter's Violence."

I admit my poetry is not up to Keats's standard or even Alfred Austin's. But even I can memorise my own doggerel. Stokes' Jingle-Jangle is beyond my powers.

WHAT'S A FETLOCK? There are still occasions when High Court judges enjoy confounding their Courts by expressing total ignorance of matters which " every schoolboy " is supposed to know. There was an apocryphal story of a judge who, when the Works of Keats were mentioned by Counsel, asked " What *are* Keats? " Recently judges have asked for information on the use or meaning of fruit-machines, twists and squares. And these questions, we may be sure, are not designed to raise " laughter in Court," but to emphasise the judge's determination to understand all that is necessary to a right judgment in the trial before him. So it was that, in a recent case concerning the fitness of a racehorse, Mr. Justice Winn in open Court took a lesson in horse anatomy from an expert. It will be recalled that Doctor Johnson, " the great lexicographer," showed deplorable ignorance of the nature and location of a horse's hock, and with a humility undesirable in a judge admitted " pure ignorance." When judges confess to " pure ignorance," they are careful to repair it before they deliver judgments which may survive as long as Johnson's Dictionary—or even longer.

CAN YOU BE SHOCKED? Perhaps you saw or will see a new film at the Arts Theatre Club? It is called *Mondo Cane* and it was designed to shock you into the realisation of how little removed from primitive barbarism and brutality is (what we call) " civilised man " today. Not least in the cruelty he tolerates, or turns his face from, inflicted on animals to supply luxuries for his stomach or for fashionable adornment.

Whether you are 80 or eight, *can* you be shocked, warned, jolted to repentance by any form of " documentary " exposing your contradictions, your primitive brutalities, your insensitive toleration of cruelty? I doubt it. Any evidence that you could be would " ring the bells of Heaven the loudest peal for years." But Ralph Hodgson is dead and his gentler methods failed, as shock tactics fail. I think the bulk of our nation is by now pretty well hard-boiled and insensitive and lacking in imagination, apart from a few who are called (sometimes justly) " cranks."

THE OLD STAGER

Led by his guide Tafas (Zia Mohyeddin), Lawrence (Peter O'Toole) rides through the barren Jordanian desert

ENTERTAINMENT

LAWRENCE OF ARABIA

Royal charity première, Odeon, Leicester Square, on December 10

The victorious Arabs charge the Turkish army. **Right:** Lawrence rides for the first time in flowing Arab robes

Prince Feisal (Alec Guinness) rallies his men

LAWRENCE OF ARABIA

(*Continued from previous page*)

The character of T. E. Lawrence seems as enigmatic and shifting as the deserts he rode over during his famous Arabian campaigns from 1916-18 against the Turks. Beneath the trappings of a popular hero there lurked the mysterious contradictions of a man who was half an academic and mystic and half a decisive man of action. For that reason, the role of Lawrence is a challenge: doubly so when it is the centre-piece of a huge, meticulously prepared film. The actor who gained the role is Peter O'Toole, unknown to world cinema audiences although he had gained a high reputation in the theatre. This is one reason why the film of Lawrence of Arabia is being awaited so eagerly. It was filmed for Columbia in Super-Panavision 70 and Technicolor, mainly in the Jordanian desert, the locations where Lawrence fought his battles, and reunites the talents of David Lean and Alec Guinness who made *The Bridge on the River Kwai* such a hit. There is a magnificent cast which also includes Anthony Quinn, Jack Hawkins, Jose Ferrer, Anthony Quayle and Arthur Kennedy. These stills indicate the film should be spectacularly exciting and may possess unusual distinction for an epic.

Right: With the arrival of peace, Lawrence takes his leave of, from left to right, Prince Feisal; Dryden (Claude Rains); General Allenby (Jack Hawkins) and Colonel Brighton (Anthony Quayle)

Lawrence stands ready to give his Beduin raiders the signal to attack the Hedjaz Railway

The Beduins ransack the Turkish supply train which has been derailed by Lawrence

The Voice of the Commonwealth

THE SCENE OF THE GAMES

A survey of Western Australia

An aerial prospect of Perth, the capital of Western Australia. Founded in 1829, it was named after Perth, Scotland, by Sir James Stirling, the first Governor

This week the city of Perth, Western Australia, becomes the sporting hub of the Commonwealth. Some 1,200 athletes from more than 30 countries and territories, plus thousands of visitors from overseas and from Australia's eastern States, have been assembling in this sunny city of 420,000 people for the VIIth Commonwealth Games. Seldom have the Games been held in a more pleasing setting. In the late Western Australian spring, Perth can promise long, mild days with an average of nine-and-a-half hours of sunshine, temperatures that are unlikely to exceed 76 deg., and little rain. The Games village, the main stadium, the aquatic centre and the lesser venues so carefully prepared are sited so that visitors travelling from one to another, from river view, to lake view, to city view to the ocean beaches, will be presented with a memorable picture of the Western Australian capital.

Western Australia has a reputation for hospitality, and the Games organisers and the people of Perth have made elaborate preparations to accommodate the visitors. Apart from the provision of new hotels and motels, visitors will be welcomed into private homes at nominal rates—an arrangement that proved successful at the 1956 Olympic Games at Melbourne. Many more will be accommodated in liners in Fremantle Harbour. A pageant of sport and entertainment has been organised to add to the excitement of the Games. Items include the Queen's Cup horse race, an international surf carnival, the 1962 Australian Grand Prix motor race, an aboriginal corroboree, and a water spectacle on the Swan River with a sail past of 1,000 craft.

A generation ago Perth would have appeared a most unlikely host city for the Commonwealth Games. On the western rim of the continent, fronting the Indian Ocean, it is separated by thousands of miles from any large centre to the east, north or west. The energy with which Perth has set about organising the Games typifies the lively development of Western Australia and the rich future that appears now to be unfolding for this sparsely settled region of 1,000,000 square miles, with a population at present of less than 750,000. Perth, a clean and open city, untainted by the fumes of industry, gives little hint of the industrial expansion taking place at Kwinana, 25 miles away on the coast, or of the truly spectacular recent mineral discoveries in the north.

Because of Western Australia's small population and its isolation from the markets of the more populous eastern States, secondary industry has developed slowly. But the State has long been important as a primary producer. The flourishing beef cattle industry in the Kimberley district of the north was established 80 years ago. The State is a major producer of wheat and other cereals. Production of fat lambs, dairy produce and wines, temperate and tropical fruit continues to expand. The Western Australian hardwoods, karri and jarrah, are known in many countries. There are two whaling stations on the west coast, pearling grounds in the far north and a crayfishing industry that contributes about £A3,000,000 a year to the export trade. From Kalgoorlie's Golden Mile, popularly known as " the richest square mile of dirt on earth " comes the major share of Australia's present-day gold production—70 years after the discovery of the deposit. These are established activities.

The State's emergence as a manufacturing force has been most conspicuous since the British Petroleum Company established a £A40,000,000 refinery at Kwinana, on Cockburn Sound, seven years ago. Until then Kwinana had been little more than a desolate stretch of beaches and lightly timbered sandhills. To give access to tankers, channels had to be cut through two banks that obstructed the mouth of what is today a magnificent deep-water harbour. When the passages were completed they admitted more than oil. Other companies were quick to see the virtue of the site and in quick succession a £A2,000,000 cement plant, a £A3,500,000 rolling mill, tube-making and chemical plants followed. The largest of projects at present under construction is a £A10,000,000 alumina refinery, which will use bauxite from the

(*Continued on following page*)

The statue of the Virgin is

Kalgoorlie, a town of 24,000 people, at the centre of the " Golden Mile," 350 miles from Perth. **Right:** Underground in a Kalgoorlie goldmine

THE SCENE OF THE GAMES

(*Continued from previous page*)

extensive deposits in the Darling Ranges, not far from Perth. The Kwinana example has set off a chain of industrial building in other parts of the State—including a £A4,000,000 titanium oxide plant near Bunbury for British Laporte Industries and a projected £A4,000,000 paper factory at Spearwood that is likely later to be integrated with a pulp mill in the forest country to the south of the State.

The biggest move, however, is yet to come. Broken Hill Pty. Company Ltd., which operates the steel rolling mill at Kwinana, has undertaken, by agreement with the Western Australian Government, to spend £A44,000,000 on an integrated iron and steel industry at Kwinana, based on the rich Koolyanobbing iron ore reserves north of Kalgoorlie. The industry will be developed in stages and by 1978 should be producing about £A18,000,000 worth of goods a year.

To make the project possible, the Federal and Western Australian State Governments are collaborating in the construction of more than 420 miles of standard gauge 4 ft. 8½ in. railway, linking the ore deposits of Kalgoorlie and Kwinana. The £A41,000,000 undertaking, in which British railway engineers are assisting, will be the biggest railway construction project outside the Communist countries since the end of World War II. It will give Western Australia an unbroken single-gauge link with the eastern States and remove the transportation jinx presented by the present break-of-gauge at Kalgoorlie.

The present rate of investment in the state is unlikely to slacken, as each new industry is the stimulant for others. The State Government is giving encouragement with an impressive programme of development works and measures to attract more skilled labour to the West, including a recent recruiting drive in Britain. Within the next decade an estimated £A1,200,000,000 is expected to be spent in Western Australia by the State and private enterprise on public works, secondary industry, housing, commercial expansion, farm development, mining, roads and other needs. One of the attractions of the West to manufacturers is its proximity to the potentially valuable Asian markets. Western Australia has a 2,000-mile advantage over the eastern States in this respect. It is significant that the Commonwealth Games this year will have a record number of competitors from Asia and the Pacific.

Mining is one of the established activities of Western Australia and a variety of minerals is extracted. The recent decision of the Federal Government to ease the total strategic embargo on the export of iron ore from Australia gave a decisive fillip to iron ore exploration. The results have profoundly changed the future of the minerals industry in the West. In the Pilbara district of north-western Western Australia alone the State Department of Mines can now point to the location of deposits containing 600,000,000 tons of high grade iron ore and a further 5,000,000,000 tons of slightly lower grade ores. These deposits have been described by Vice-President Thomas M. Price of the Kaiser Steel

The new Perry Lake stadium five miles from Perth—the venue of the games

Corporation of the United States as " among the most massive known ore bodies in the world." A group formed by Con-zinc Rio Tinto of Australia Ltd. and Kaiser Steel is now investigating the reserves in the Hammersley Range area of the Pilbara and is also carrying out railway and port reconnaissance. The Pilbara deposits and lesser discoveries of iron ore elsewhere in the State have been attracting the interest of other international companies. The Broken Hill Pty. Company is also expanding the recovery rate from the deposits at Yampi Sound in the north-west, which have long been a source of ore for the steel-works of the east.

While the West expects industrial growth to lead to a steady expansion of the population, vast areas of the State will continue to remain unsettled because of the arid conditions. Western Australia is deeply conscious of these empty spaces and a long-term scientific effort has been devoted to finding the solutions that will lead to closer settlement in the more promising regions. After 20 years of investigation the State Government has now started work on a £A20,000,000 scheme to harness the high seasonal flow of the Ord River in the Kimberley area of the tropical far north and hopes that this will ultimately enable 200,000 acres to be brought under cultivation for tropical crops.

Because of the pace and scale of recent happenings in the State, Western Australians can perhaps be excused expressions of optimism. It may or may not be a second California, as some identify it. But visitors to the Games, if they choose to look beyond the stadiums and the lovely city of Perth, will be quick to agree that the big Western Third of Australia is developing an exceedingly long stride.

The items in " The Voice of the Commonwealth " are contributed and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor of " The Sphere "

during the traditional ceremony of blessing the boats in Fremantle

A part of the British Petroleum Company's £A40,000,000 refinery at Kwinana, on Cockburn Sound, twenty-five miles from Perth. **Right:** The pipeline which carries water across desert country from the Indian Ocean to serve the mining centres of Kalgoorlie and Boulder. **Below:** Yampi Sound, an iron ore deposit in the north of the state

At the Beatty Park swimming-pool in Perth

BRIAN VESEY-FITZGERALD

TERCENTENARY OF A LADY TRAVELLER

Celia Fiennes was born three hundred years ago, on June 7, 1662, probably in the manor house of Newton Toney, near Salisbury. Nobody observed her centenary, because nobody outside her own family had then even heard of her. Nobody observed her bicentenary for precisely the same reason: she was then completely unknown. But I had expected her tercentenary to be observed. However, it too seems to have passed unnoticed: an injustice to a remarkable woman.

She was the daughter of Colonel Nathaniel Fiennes, who was a Roundhead and the second son of the 1st Viscount Saye and Sele, by his second marriage. (Her step-brother became the 3rd Viscount.) Her mother was the daughter of Colonel Richard Whitehead, another Roundhead, who was squire of West Tytherley, near Salisbury. She was, therefore, a lady of wealth and position. And, in her day, ladies of wealth and position did not travel except, perhaps, for an annual journey to London or to take the waters at some fashionable spa.

Travelling, three hundred years ago, was not something to be undertaken just for the fun of the thing. The roads were unbelievably bad, accommodation away from the main roads difficult, and often impossible to find, and highwaymen and footpads pretty plentiful. Moreover, the first road maps of England (those of John Ogilby) had only just (1675) been produced, and they did not cover the whole of the country by any means, and were not all that accurate anyway. It was all too easy to lose your way. Young ladies of wealth and position stayed at home.

But not Celia Fiennes. She was always mounting a horse and going off, with only a manservant following, to see places miles away from home. She thought nothing of journeys of hundreds of miles. She rode the whole length of England from Cornwall to Northumberland, and penetrated Scotland as far north as Aberdeen. She thought as little of Scotland as did Dr. Johnson on a later occasion. Except in Edinburgh and Aberdeen the only accommodation she could find was in noblemen's houses.

These houses, she said, "Are all kind of Castles and they Live great, though in so nasty a way as all things are even in these houses one has Little Stomach to Eat or use anything." One would expect to find her in noblemen's houses. But she was no snob and mixed easily with all conditions of people. If, in England, she found herself at nightfall out of reach of an inn or the house of a friend or relation, she thought nothing of spending the night in the humblest wayside cottage; though she might afterwards complain of the squalor, stench and discomfort. She must have been a most remarkable woman.

She wrote a most remarkable book: the first comprehensive survey of England since Camden's in Elizabethan times. For this, if for nothing else, her tercentenary deserves to be noticed. This book is remarkable, too, because it was written, not for publication but simply for her own amusement and the amusement of her family. She begins by saying: "As this was never designed soe not likely to fall into the hands of any but my near relations there needs not much to be said to excuse or recommend it." It was once fashionable to open one's book with that sort of insincerity, but I think there can be no doubt that Celia Fiennes meant it. We should never have seen it at all, had not her kinswoman, the Hon. Mrs. Griffiths, daughter of the 15th Viscount Saye and Sele, rescued it and edited it in 1888, under the title—Through England on a Sidesaddle in the time of William and Mary; being the Diary of Celia Fiennes.

Mrs. Griffiths says that it "almost takes the position and value of an historical document." The word "almost" is unnecessary. This is an historical document and a very valuable one. But, unlike so many historical documents, Celia Fiennes's diary is never dull. She journeyed for pleasure and her health—one cannot but wonder about her health, for she must have been extraordinarily tough physically—and it is evident that she wrote just because she liked writing. As a diarist she has, I think, much in common with Samuel Pepys. She describes herself as a "spectatrix" of the pageant of her day, and she has the same eager interest in all around her as Pepys had. Like him, she never tries to be clever, and she never tries to achieve an effect. She had a very observant eye, and she just puts down what she has seen as clearly and simply as she can: and that makes good reading at any time.

She has her special interests. Like most well-to-do women of her day, she was indefatigable in "taking the waters" and her descriptions of spas are detailed and sometimes scathing. Then just as Defoe was specially interested in manufactures and trade, Cobbett and Young in agriculture, so she was interested in fine houses, their furnishings and appointments and their gardens. But she was also interested in the poor and their way of life; and (unlike Defoe, Cobbett and Young) in birds and scenery for their own sake. But it is the nonconformist quality of Defoe that is most apparent and, like him, she admired the utilitarian and had a sharp eye for the possibilities for money-making in the most unlikely places. She must, I think, have been a very formidable woman: with a hard, shrewd masculine mind but feminine enough. That is often evident in her book: for example, she was, I think, though she nowhere says so definitely, a very good needlewoman.

She thought little of the fashionable women of her day. If, she says, ladies "would spend some time in journeys to visit their native Land and be curious to Inform themselves and make observations," it would be a sovereign remedy "to cure or preserve from those Epidemic diseases of vapours, shall I add Laziness?; it would also form such an idea of England and add much to its Glory and Esteem in our minds and cure the evil Itch of over valuing foreign parts." I doubt if Celia Fiennes was regarded as a social asset at a party!

You know, we have not, as a race, changed much in the last three hundred years. Now, when almost everyone has a car and can journey easily, and comparatively quickly, anywhere throughout Britain, "abroad" has never been so fashionable. It seems to be in the English nature to over-value foreign parts.

Bedford on the attack in their match against Haileybury, with the school buildings of Haileybury in the background

Bedford forward C. T. Langdon is well held by R. P. Brittain

Haileybury's E. W. Porter passes as he is tackled by R. P. Godber

R. P. Godber (Bedford) catches the ball in a line-out

PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOOTBALL

HAILEYBURY v BEDFORD

Bedford came to Haileybury with an unbeaten record, while Haileybury had had some heavy defeats, so it was not surprising that Bedford scored their first win over the home team since 1953, by 8 pts. to nil. The visitors' forwards were more effective for most of the game, but their outsides, nevertheless, could make little headway against a persistent defence, which rebuffed one Bedford attack after another in the first 20 minutes of the game. The first score came from a good diagonal kick by the fly-half enabling J. B. Price to reach the ball just short of touch-in-goal. Haileybury then took the initiative, but were unable to equalise before half-time. In the second half a sturdy defence and some poor passing closed up the game and little open play was seen. Shortly before the end Bedford scored again by a pushover try which was well converted by R. F. Hewitt. (Haileybury were in striped shirts, Bedford in plain.)

D. N. Sibley (Haileybury) while passing is tackled by R. H. Lawson

S. D. M. Strong of Bedford (over ball) almost scores a try near the corner flag

London Clubs

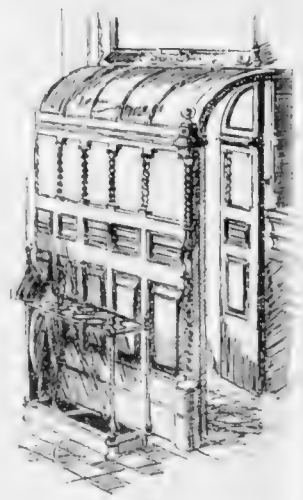
THE GARRICK

Drawings by
GEOFFREY S. FLETCHER

Garrick, being a member of The Club over which Dr. Johnson presided at the Turk's Head, must have been an eminently "clubbable" man. It is right therefore that one of the best London clubs should be named in his memory. There are various versions of how the Garrick Club came into being in 1831. One story is that the Duke of Sussex, George III's eccentric "democrat" son, had a hand in it as a means for him to meet actors and journalists. Certainly the original membership seems to have been broad-based, being drawn from the aristocracy and from most of the Arts, with the accent on drama and literature. These professions, and the Law, are today the main source of membership. This gives Garrick members a wide scope of interest which provides the especially clubbable atmosphere of the place. It is not confined, as are some clubs, to a particular political outlook or one branch of the Services.

The present building was opened in 1864 near the site of the club's previous premises. Frederick Marrable was the architect and the newly constructed street in which it stood was renamed Garrick Street. Almost all the great names connected with the stage or with literature over the past 130 years have been members. One of the great prides of the club is its collection of pictures relating to the theatre. Well over half of them were in a collection bought in 1835. There is also the unique collection of other theatrical relics.

Garrick's chair—one of the club's relics of him



The Porter's Lodge

Irving's chair on the turning of the Grand Staircase of the Garrick Club. **Below:** The Library is concerned with books on the theatre and contains a vast collection of playbills and programmes

In the Coffee Room and, **below,** the Morning Room hang some of the Garrick's famous collection of portraits and paintings connected with the theatre

TRAVEL

THE PROMISING LAND

By **GORDON COOPER**

The largest piece of the tiny land of Israel is a great expanse shaped like an arrow-head, fitted between Jordan on one side and the Sinai peninsula on the other, pointing dead south until its tip just dips into the Red Sea. On maps this tract, called the Negev, is shown as a barren desert, little known, little used, and hardly wanted.

Following the Sinai Campaign (or Suez War), the Israelis secured a few miles of the coast, and the town of Eilat came into operation. A road was built linking it with Beersheba, an air service runs daily from Tel Aviv, there are water and oil pipe lines leading north, and air-conditioned hotels tempt the tourist to a winter resort—the town receives only one day of rain during each of the three winter months. The Bay of Eilat offers wonderful bathing and skin-diving, and there is a unique coral-studded floor, with a wonderful display of tropical fish. Also from this base many famous biblical and historical places are within easy reach.

At the top of the Negev, in the centre of its broadest girth, between the Gaza Strip and the Dead Sea, sits the commanding city of Beersheba, once the southern extremity of the Holy Land that stretched from Dan to Beersheba, and now the capital of the desert. Here, as it is told in the Bible, Abraham met Abimelech, and Abraham's son Isaac pitched his tent and had his servants dig a well. Frankly, Beersheba today seems to have lost its Biblical heritage, for it is one of the fastest-developing cities in the country, with light industrial factories and modern blocks of flats rising on every side. In contrast, there are still the black-robed Beduin women to be seen driving donkeys to market. There is also a weekly camel market in the town, when the Beduins in their exotic costumes troop into the centre to carry on trade and exchange gossip.

East of Beersheba a first-class road leads to Sodom on the shores of the Dead Sea: 1,300 ft. below sea-level, and with the lowest post office in the world. Here, too, is an important potash factory, and some miles northwards, along the lakeside, is the mountain-fortress of Massada, a place of importance in Jewish history. The Israeli road ends at Ein Gedi, where there is a farm settlement near the border of Jordan. Bathing, however, in the buoyant inland sea is a sticky and not too pleasant experience.

Southwards from Beersheba the countryside is brightened with carpets of brightly coloured spring flowers. Here and there a black-robed shepherd is tending his camel herd, and occasional herds of black goats nibble among the sparse pasturage. But although the Negev appears to be complete desert, its beginnings stretch back into prehistory, while archæologists find it to be an area of intense fascination. Several hundreds of sites belonging to well-developed civilisations have already been unearthed, among them villages and forts of the Judean kingdom from the time of King Solomon at the end of the tenth century B.C. down to the beginning of the sixth century B.C. The cultural monuments have revealed much about the Nabateans, a fascinating people who can be traced through their Nomad period as traders to the time they became agriculturists. (The chief Nabatean city was Petra, the "rose-red city half as old as time," in Jordan.) A short deviation from the main road to Eilat leads to Avdat, now in ruins. But you can still study how the Nabateans built reservoirs to conserve the sparse rainwater, irrigation channels to carry the water, and caves to store the harvest. Another curious archæological site is at Shifta.

Holidaymakers at Eilat on the Red Sea, where conditions are summer-like in the winter

Trajan occupied Avdat, which stands at the crossroads between Petra, Gaza and Eilat, in A.D. 106 and the Arabs took it only to abandon it about A.D. 1,000. It lay buried in the sand until discovered by an Englishman in 1871, but it was not until 1949 that the Israelis started on the work of reconstruction. Shifta, too, standing in a commanding position is most interesting, and contains the well-preserved ruins of the Byzantines, including three churches dating from the fifth and sixth centuries. Its Arabic name is Subeita, but its ancient name is still unknown.

Continuing along the road to Eilat, one descends into a great depression, a phenomenon called Makhtesh Ramon, which is 22 miles long and where uncounted eons ago the earth collapsed. Here in this strange land were found fossil frogs 120,000,000 years old, a 15-ft. lizard with a neck like a giraffe, a sea turtle enclosed in a shell of armour, and a set of teeth for crushing marine animals. Before reaching the road down to this eerie land—now being exploited for minerals—one passes through the utterly desolate expanse of Midbar-Tsin—the Wilderness of Zin, where the tribes of Israel wandered about 3,300 years ago on their way from Egypt to the Land of Canaan.

Now the Red Sea road runs across Hameishar Plain, a great flat-land where camels in untended flocks wander over, following the wadis from Jordan; but they are never seized by Israel, eager to maintain a quiet frontier on its east. At Yotvata a kibbutz (communal farm) grow iris and other flowers, some of which are even exported by air (via Eilat) to the London market. This kibbutz can provide simple and pleasing accommodation for the inquiring visitor.

Now the mountains of the Negev turn red and in the midst of them is a copper mine (still working) which lies close to some cliffs called Pillars of Solomon. Near here, in ancient days, copper was mined, and on the top of a rocky hill are the remains of a watch tower that guarded the prisoners and slaves who worked in the copper-smelting pits. The remains of these pits can still be seen next to heaps of black slag.

It was dusk when I entered Eilat, and the lights that came up on my left so near the new city were all in Jordan, with Saudi Arabia beginning where the lights ended, and Egypt on the opposite shore. Eilat's history is ancient, although its development is new. Here the tribes of Israel stopped on their way from

The new road to the town of Sodom lying 1,300 feet below sea-level on the Dead Sea. Here is the lowest post office in the world

gypt to Canaan and the Queen of Sheba rested on her way to Jerusalem. Here King Solomon's ships sailed to fetch gold, sandalwood, precious stones and peacocks from the land called Ophir, variously located in India, Ceylon, Malay, East Africa and Arabia.

The Torah promised Israel " And I will set thy bounds from the Red Sea even unto the Sea of the Philistines." There are no longer any Philistines left on the Mediterranean, but the promising land now stretches from sea to sea, and no part of it offers a greater challenge to the Israelis than the Negev, so long uncharted, so filled with history and potentialities and hopes.

For further information:

Israel Government Tourist Office, 59 St. James's Street, S.W.1, also Tourist Information Offices in Tel Aviv, Beersheba and Eilat.

For travel arrangements:

Horizon Holidays, 17 Hanover Street, W.1.
Peltours, 29 Duke Street, W.1.

Recommended hotels:

Desert Inn, Beersheba.
Eilat Hotel, Eilat.
Solomon Hotel, Eilat.

Suggested reading:

Rivers in the Desert, by Nelson Glueck (Weidenfeld and Nicolson).

Transportation to Eilat:

By Arkia, Israel Inland Airways, Tel Aviv-Eilat in 60 mins., several services, both ways, daily.

By twice-daily bus services (6-8 hrs.) between Tel Aviv, Beersheba and Eilat.

By " Sherut " (a taxi service, with prices between a private car and bus) between Tel Aviv and Eilat.

By self-drive car this is possible, but not recommended.

Climatic conditions:

During the summer months temperatures reach the nineties, while in winter the sixties and seventies are normal in Eilat. The climate is dry and sea breezes even on the hottest day make conditions bearable. The average water temperatures are in the seventies during the winter months, rising to the eighties in the summer.

AN UNUSUAL MEDITERRANEAN CRUISE

Often during my journeys I have been most impressed with the loving care given to tending the war graves and memorials maintained by the Imperial War Graves Commission. I welcome, therefore, the opportunity of bringing the attention of readers to a Mediterranean cruise which embraces visits to war cemeteries and memorials at Phaleron (Athens), Suda Bay (Crete), Alexandria, Cairo, Heliopolis, El Alamein, Tobruk and Knightsbridge—all in North Africa. This tour leaves by train for Venice on April 20 and will be away 16 days. The ship is the comfortable *Hermes* (5,000 tons), the inclusive price, kept to an absolute minimum, is from 75 guineas, but excursions are an extra.

Anyone interested in this cruise should write immediately to Mr. G. S. Nash, 6, Hampden Crescent, Brentwood, Essex, who is operating the venture, while Lunn's (34, Edgware Road, London, W.2) is undertaking the arrangements. Ex-Servicemen and relatives of the fallen will, of course, be specially interested in such a cruise.

LEADERS OF BRITISH INDUSTRY

Photographed by Tom Hustler

P. G. Macdonald

In 1947, on the death of Sir Robert McVitie Grant, Mr. P. G. Macdonald, W.S., J.P., became chairman of McVitie and Price, one of the most prominent names in biscuit manufacture. The following year McVitie and Price and Macfarlane Lang and Co. amalgamated and Mr. Macdonald formed, and became the first chairman of, the United Biscuits Group. Recently, William Crawford and Sons merged with United, which is now the largest biscuit manufacturing group in Britain. Sales last year reached over £21,000,000. Mr. Macdonald is a director of the Guardian Assurance Co., London, and the Caledonian Insurance Co., Edinburgh. He is chairman of John Dickson and Son Ltd., makers of the only sporting gun produced in Scotland. As a youth, Mr. Macdonald served in the First World War with the Scottish Horse, Black Watch, R.G.A. and Lovat Scouts. In the Second World War he served as a staff officer on the Scottish Regional Commissioner's staff and chairman of the Food section of the Local Emergency Reconstruction Panel. Mr. Macdonald is a member of the London Council of the Institute of Directors and inaugurated the Scottish branch of the Institute, of which he became chairman. He has done much work for charities and served as a member of the Church of Scotland Extension Appeal Committee. Married, Mr. Macdonald lives in Edinburgh. He has two daughters and a son. His hobbies are fishing, shooting and golf

BUILDING AND ITS BIGGEST CUSTOMER

By "THE SPHERE" INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

Roughly 45 per cent. of all capital expenditure in Britain nowadays goes into building and construction of one kind or another; and for capital expenditure by public authorities the proportion of building must be well over half. So the sizeable increase in this "public investment" which accompanies and will complement Mr. Maudling's recent "little budget"—the increase foreseen is 7½ per cent. this financial year and another 10 per cent. next—will mean even more business for the building and civil engineering industries.

The reason why public investment involves more building than private is simply that public services are less mechanised than industrial production is. Investment in industry, by definition, includes a lot of plant and machinery, with which the goods and the profits are made. Schools, hospitals, roads and public housing are almost entirely a matter of building. And though public investment in Britain happens to include some industries buying vast amounts of plant and machinery—electricity, transport, the post office, and other nationalised industries—it so happens that this year and next it is the "social investment" in public services that is going to increase more than this other industrial element. So the contribution required from building to this increased programme will be larger even than usual.

During recent weeks there has been a certain amount of public controversy over the competence—i.e., efficiency and capacity—of the construction industries to handle their massive, continuing job. Building contractors have been under criticism for failure to adopt the most up-to-date methods of construction tried out in other parts of the world. The usual architects-versus-builders argument about responsibility for advanced design and technique has been aired again. There has been some complaint about the effectiveness of the technical stimulus that is given, or ought to be given, to the construction industries by the Government's Building Research Station.

All in all, this controversy seems to have generated more heat than light; and one general weakness of the critics, who have in detail some good points to make, has been to underestimate the measurable advances that have been made in the industry's productivity over recent years. Taking the construction industries as a whole, they are today producing nearly half as much again as ten years ago, with a labour force about one-eighth higher. That represents an increase of about 30 per cent. in productivity per man-year, which compares with just over 25 per cent. in manufacturing. Neither is exactly a rocketing increase in productivity—partly because both sectors of industry have been subjected to so many "stops" and "starts," during recent years in particular. But the construction industries compare respectably with most others.

"Construction," however, is a single label covering a multitude of different activities. There are a sizeable number of large firms that are prepared to engage in almost all of these, from building single houses to constructing hydro-electric dams; many smaller specialist firms; and a large tail of small-scale builders whose main activity is the repair and maintenance of buildings and works, not their construction at all. The efficiency of planning and actual operations—and the chances of improving this efficiency—vary tremendously between these different sections of the industry.

The small firms specialising in repairs, however, are hardly concerned with investment programmes, public or private; and this work accounts for about a fifth by value of the total output in the construction industries. Of the other 80 per cent., valued at some £2,140,000,000 in 1961, public and private housing accounted for £820,000,000; all forms of industrial buildings and works for £670,000,000; commercial building for £250,000,000; and public service investment, where the main 1963-64 increases seem to be coming, for about £400,000,000.

Some building of council housing and other local authority work—perhaps 15 per cent. of all construction—is carried out by the authorities' own housing departments employing direct labour; but the great mass of public building as well as private is carried out by the contracting industries, big firms and small. Even apart from the nationalised industries, it can be reckoned from the figures above that nearly £650,000,000 a year is spent by the central and local government with the construction industries. And it is towards greater efficiency in the placing and planning of these contracts, as well as towards greater technical efficiency in actual operations, that the Government's concern with this industry is now directed.

The new Minister of Public Building and Works, Mr. Geoffrey Rippon, has begun by arranging for a long, cold look to be taken at the traditional method of placing such contracts—competitive tendering. This form of competition—the putting in of individual estimates for specified jobs by different builders—ought in principle to be the fairest method, but it can be a costly one. Preparing a tender is not cheap; and under this system most of the tenders that any single builder puts in will be unsuccessful; that means an extra overhead cost of estimation, which is in practice spread across all his tenders and has to be recouped from his successful bids. Where the jobs are small and the task of preparation light, the extra margin of cost here may not matter. Nowadays, with many contracts for public building running into several millions of pounds, the extra cost to be borne by successful jobs is not small. Moreover, not all public clients are satisfied that this form of tendering is absolutely competitive anyway; so this principle that costs so much may not be worth having.

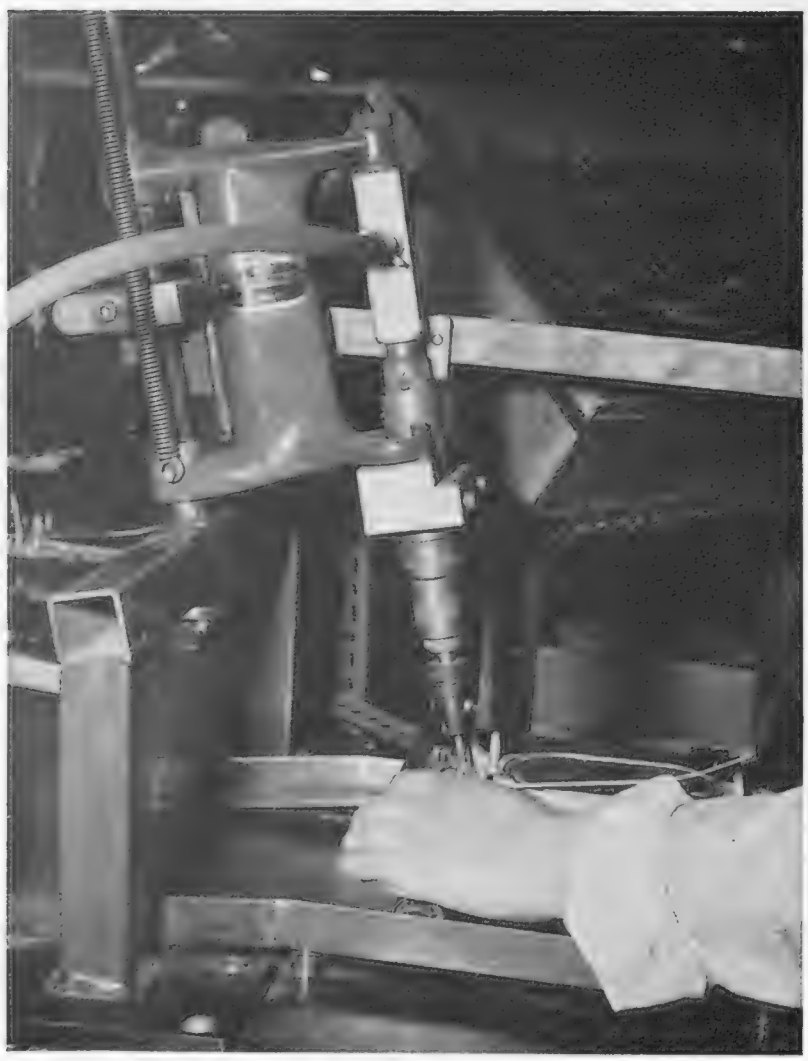
The Minister has appointed a committee to study methods of tendering for public service building contracts, and his new Director-General of Research and Development, Sir Donald Gibson, is also concerning himself with this aspect of construction. While Sir Donald was Director-General of works in the War Office during the last war, one method used as an alternative to full competitive tendering was to put an initial contract out to open tender, on the understanding that the successful contractor would get a series of similar orders, with negotiation over their actual prices.

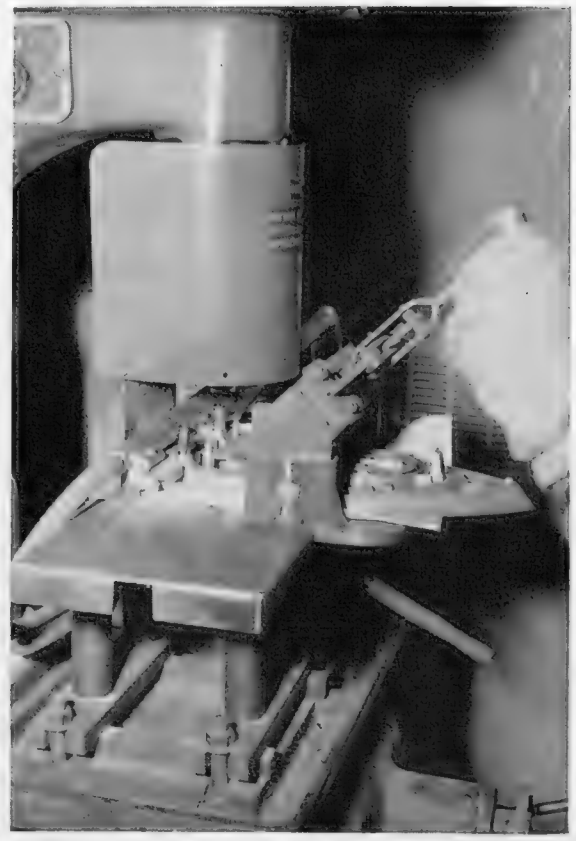
This new Directorate of Research and Development will be concerned with building techniques, too; but rather less with fundamental research on such matters as soil mechanics and building materials than the Ministry of Science's existing Building Research Station. One difficulty that station has encountered is that its main emphasis must inevitably be on research, and the study of new techniques, rather than with actually getting these used in the construction industries—though it played a pioneer part, for example, in the introduction of tower cranes into British building.

The Ministry's new Director-General has rather more chance to encourage new systems of unconventional building; his main lever being the vast public purse of the industry's biggest customer. His opportunities to study the whole economics of the industry, to look at the development into practice of techniques emerging from the laboratory here and abroad, and to consider the problems of management and liaison with architects should be considerable. The whole experiment, over the next few years, could be a test of a technique on which Britain's Conservative Government is putting a new emphasis—influencing industry through the huge public orders that it has to place, rather than by direction or even planning from above.

This year's Public Works and Municipal Services Exhibition held at Olympia in London. It was opened last week by Mr. Geoffrey Rippon, Minister of Works

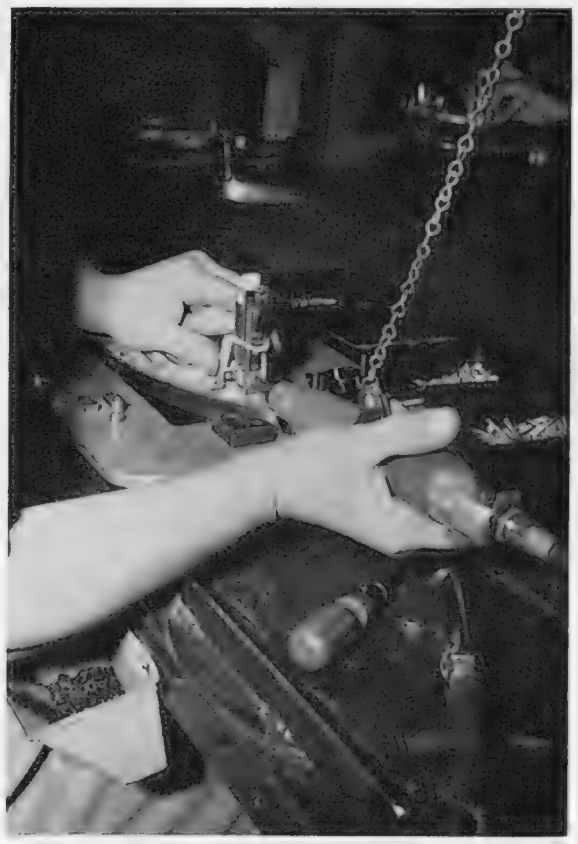
Drilling steam holes in the aluminium sole-plate of a steam iron





Preparing to seal the ends of the element

Fastening the steam cha



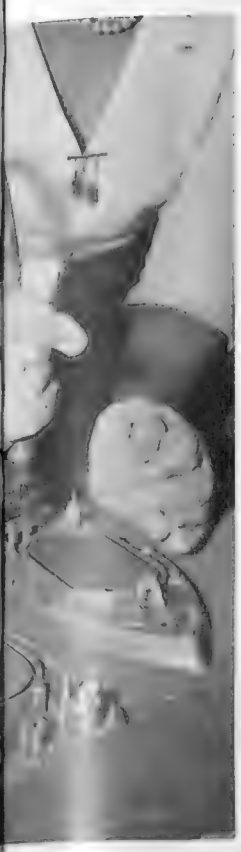
Assembling the thermostat on the base

Final checking and adjustm

EIGHTEEN M

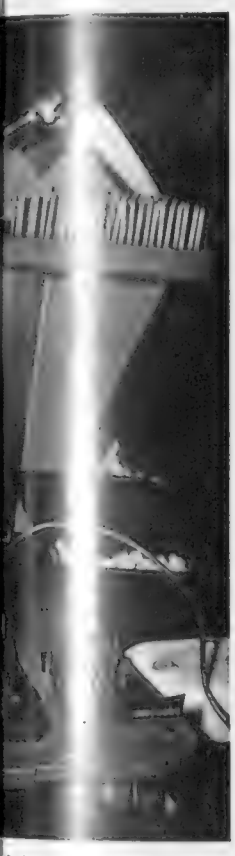
A remarkable production figure which should be recorded is that recently Morphy-Richards (Cray) Ltd. turned out their eighteen millionth iron, reaching that milestone in the space of 18 years. Although the first iron came off the production line in 1938, there was a break during the war years when the company was engaged in manufacturing aircraft components. The first Morphy-Richards factory was set up in an oast-house in St. Mary Cray, Kent, in 1936. First appliances made there were radiant fires. This was followed by the idea of the electric heat-controlled iron. Today the company is one of the biggest manufacturers of these irons in the world.

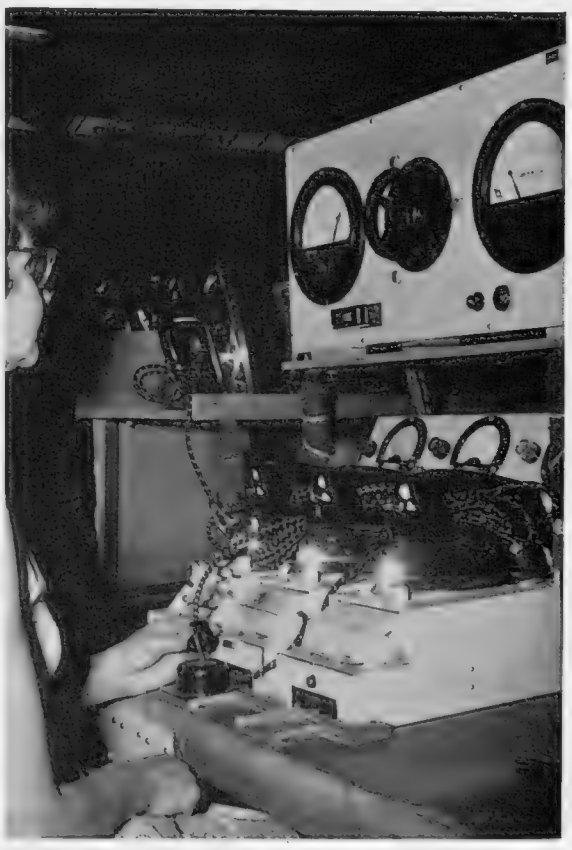
Left: Another stage in making an iron—assembling the stud securing the cowl to the sole-plate base



ead to th sole-plate

Sub-assembly—fixing a bracket to the handle





f the th nostat. **Right:** Checking the wattage and first stage setting of temperatures

LLION IRONS

By 1939 it became clear that the policy of concentrating effort on electric irons was correct, and alongside the original oast-house was built a new factory, which began turning out 5,000 irons a week. Following the end of the war the company began expanding their range of products. Now their varieties of irons include a lightweight one of 2¾ lb., another of 4½ lb. and a heat-controlled steam iron. Demand for Morphy-Richards appliances by 1952 led to the erection of another new factory, directly across the road from the oast-house. The company now make, as well as irons, automatic toasters, hair dryers, shavers, suction cleaners, door chimes, fan heaters, convector heaters, electric fires, electric blankets and time delay switches.

When the eighteen millionth iron came off the production line, it was packed with a special message from the managing director, Mr. Graham Hurst, stating that the company was providing a weekend holiday for two anywhere in Europe for the lucky buyer.

INDUSTRY AND THE STOCK MARKET

INVESTMENT AID

By "THE SPHERE" CITY CORRESPONDENT

Government incentives to investment, which will come as no surprise to readers of this column, prove even more generous than the City had expected. Apart from the reduction of purchase tax on motor cars—many cars are bought by companies as investment goods—the Chancellor of the Exchequer's new incentives fall into two broad groups.

First are the tax concessions to companies for capital investment plans. These concessions, which represent a benefit to taxpayers of more than £100,000,000, consist of larger depreciation concessions (which allow companies to write down their plant and buildings) and sharply increased investment allowances; these latter act as a tax benefit for companies which invest in plant and machinery. Along with greater concessions on research capital spending, these new allowances are an important gain to private industry.

At the same time—and this forms the second set of concessions—the Chancellor is increasing the rate of public investment. Spending on housing, education, roads and other services is to be increased by £130,000,000 or close to 7 per cent.

All these plans taken together form an impressive shot in the arm for investment in Britain. The Chancellor's measures (which take effect at once, but depend on Parliamentary approval in the Finance Bill next spring) seem to reflect acceptance of "Neddy's" forecasts for the economy which were outlined here a short time ago. Neddy urged that to achieve a 4 per cent. annual rate of growth in incomes, Britain would have to raise the proportion of national resources that are invested. Mr. Maudling's new moves will go a long way towards achieving this aim.

What are the likely effects on industry? Over the medium to longer term (companies' investment plans are not evolved or altered in the short run) these could be considerable. Most likely gainers are the capital goods suppliers, whose shares have recently been depressed by the falling level of industrial investment. Head, Wrightson, the north-east coast engineers who held their dividend in the last two years despite falling profits, should find more business. Davy-Ashmore, the important supplier of capital goods to the steel industry, should now face a more promising outlook.

Both these companies' recent records will be familiar to readers of this column. Head, Wrightson rank as the outstanding capital goods share—because of their profit resilience, progressive dividend record and strong cash position. Davy-Ashmore are a newly formed group, through the merger of Davy-United with the Power-Gas Corporation.

One important point for investors is that capital goods companies will benefit both as suppliers and users. Demand for their products will be increased, while the extra equipment which they instal will also rank for the new allowances. This two-fold benefit for investment goods manufacturers points to the large general engineering groups as important beneficiaries.

Two outstanding large groups in this category are Tube Investments and Guest Keen and Nettlefolds. T.I. have just reported a 15 per cent. drop in profits for 1961-62, a much better out-turn than the City had expected: Tube Investments have an important stake in aluminium, cycles and household electrical goods, all of which suffered from last year's static industrial conditions. Pending guidance from Sir Ivan Stedeford at the forthcoming annual meeting, the City believes that the group have passed the worst of general recession and can look forward to a steady revival in earnings. Shareholders' dividends were repeated at 14 per cent. last year, more than twice covered by available profits.

Guest Keen, the large Birmingham group, also pleased stock markets with the forecast that current-year profits would not be very different from those in 1961—even though 1962 results will be depressed by an extra £1,000,000 of depreciation. Given Guest Keen's large interest in iron and steel production (steel companies' profits remain under pressure) these 1962 results were considered extremely satisfactory.

Both these broad groups of companies, the capital goods suppliers and the feeders to engineering, should gain from Mr. Maudling's new incentives. But some people may prefer a closer link in companies that stand to gain directly from larger industrial spending. One likely group is Britain's makers of industrial instruments, whose profits have also suffered from falling investment. One of the best-known companies in this sector is Negretti and Zambra, who reported lower profits for the first half of 1962 but whose medium- to longer-term outlook now seems more encouraging. Negretti have paid a well-protected 11 per cent. dividend in each of the last five years, and larger sales could bring a relaxing of dividend policy.

For investors, the new official policy over investment presents a strong case for holding shares in either Tube Investments or Guest Keen. Both shares offer about 4½ per cent., with Guest Keen the more specialised in steel and engineering. Shares in Head, Wrightson offer a similar return with perhaps greater short-term prospects from rising investment: Davy-Ashmore's dividend warning makes it difficult over the short term to assess the shares, now selling close to 20s. Shares in Negretti and Zambra, like most of the specialist equipment makers, will appeal mainly to people attracted by capital growth possibilities: dividend yield is less than 3½ per cent.

BOOKS

FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

A report by a team of young critics to CHARLES DIMONT on recently published children's books

An adult is not qualified to review children's books. The reviews on this page are therefore reports from an advisory committee I enrolled of five children, aged respectively 15 (a girl); 12 (a boy); 10 (a boy); 7 (a girl) and 4 (a boy). Children, it may be observed, appear to be natural reviewers, having the ability to get straight to the core of a book. Here are two examples from the 10-year-old member of my committee:

HOW SHIPS ARE NAVIGATED, by Roger Pilkington (Routledge and Kegan Paul. 12s. 6d.). This book is equipped with every possible detail. The diagrams are very well drawn and the title *How Ships are Navigated* is the best possible title.

HEROES OF EXPLORATION, by Michael Lacre and Louis Sabatie (Golden Pleasure Books. 10s. 6d.). This is one of the most interesting books I have ever read. It tells of exploration since Greek and Roman times. The pictures are most beautiful, and the maps are also nice.

These critiques are models of succinct brevity, which could be studied to advantage by older reviewers.

Starting with books for younger children, say up to the age of 8 or 9, THE SWAPPING BOY, by John Langstaff (World's Work. 12s. 6d.), found great favour. It is based on an old English folk song which has been transported to North America and it has a curiously compulsive refrain which is nonsense to an adult but not, apparently, to a child. The illustrations, by Beth and Joe Krush, are large and colourful. The two youngest members of my committee quarrelled violently about which of them should have the book. There can be no higher praise for it than that.

The tribute of a similar quarrel was awarded to MY BIG PICTURE DICTIONARY (Odhams. 12s. 6d.). Twelve words are illustrated for each letter of the alphabet. The dictionary is an example of looking and learning at its best.

Two new Beginner Books from Collins and Harvill Press (each at 8s. 6d.) are YOU WILL GO TO THE MOON, by Mae and Ira Freeman, and illustrated by Robert Patterson, and Bennett Cerf's BOOK OF RIDDLES, with drawings by Roy McKie. The general opinion was that they are good, especially with regard to the illustrations "like all Beginner Books." My personal recommendation is for *Riddles* which should keep a healthy boy up to the age of 10 or beyond chortling throughout the festive season.

High praise, especially from the junior members, for GRANDFATHER AND I, by Helen E. Buckley, pictures by Paul Galdone (World's Work. 12s. 6d.). Many grandparents are going to find themselves reading this book to their grandchildren. It will delight both the old and the young.

Two more books grandparents are going to be asked to "read it, please," are Roberta Leigh's TORCHY AND HIS TWO BEST FRIENDS, illustrated by Tessa Mills, and TORCHY AND BOSSY BOOTS, illustrated by Patricia Barton (Pelham Books. 10s. 6d. each).

One of the many splendid photographs (which are in colour) by Ralph Hermanns in *Lee Lan flies the dragon kite* (Collins. 15s.). This story of a brother and sister who live in great poverty in a junk on the waters of Hong Kong, has the distinction of an English version written by the poet Edmund Blunden, who has been Professor of English in the university of that city since 1953

It is hardly surprising to find that children would suggest a reading aloud of ACHILLES THE DONKEY (Dennis Dobson. 15s.). There are splendid illustrations by Carol Barker but everything is overshadowed by the text, for it is by H. E. Bates. This distinguished novelist writes a story about a swift-running donkey whose adventures have a certain Homeric ring about them.

A donkey is the central character of a book for older children which the senior members of my committee found well up to standard on the authoress's previous work. This, they admitted, was saying a great deal, for the authoress is Doreen Tovey and the book is DONKEY WORK (Elek Books. 16s.).

Ponies and horses follow naturally on donkeys, and three books about them will appeal to all ages. The Florian of FLORIAN'S FARMYARD, written by Pat Smythe (Cassell. 10s. 6d.), is real. Keith Money's photographs illustrate this story of a Shetland pony—one of the smallest ever bred—who has been a film star and guest of honour at the Horse of the Year Show. Those learning seriously to ride will probably agree that everything is equally real in Thelwell's A LEG AT EACH CORNER (Methuen. 16s.). Your reviewers laughed so much that we had to call for an adjournment of our proceedings. Our copy of the book is at the time of writing being handed round our adult equestrian friends. But the children have already conspired to get it back.

CLEAR ROUND, by Pamela MacGregor-Morris (Collins. 8s. 6d.), is one in a new series of career novels concerned, as the publishers put it, with some of the exciting walks of life open to girls. *Clear Round* is about how to become a riding instructress and show jumper. "Not the ideal way of presenting this" was the verdict of the senior member of my advisory committee.

Which brings us to the books for older children. There can be no doubt at all that the best of all currently published is THE SIEGE AND FALL OF TROY, by Robert Graves (Cassell. 15s.). The Professor of Poetry at Oxford, who is also a distinguished novelist and classicist, has drawn on a number of sources besides Homer and has achieved that rarity, a book which children want from their parents and parents will hope their children will give them. Here, neat and unadulterated, is the spirit on which Western Civilisation was nurtured and which it must continue to imbibe in order to survive.

Thrillers highly recommended by the boys are NUCLEAR CAPTAIN, by John Wingate, D.S.C. (Macdonald. 12s. 6d.). This is a Submariner Sinclair story in which brainwashing is only one of the nightmares which has to be faced by the intrepid opponents of the communists. ARCTIC SPY, by A. R. Channel (Collins. 8s. 6d.), is another enthralling book about the defence against communism set in the area of the DEW system. A novel for both sexes is THE PURPLE MOUNTAIN, by Dorothy Clewes (Collins. 12s. 6d.). It concerns crime detection in Italy.

"The Bicycle Wedding" is the title of this nineteenth-century print. It is reproduced from *A Pictorial History of Inventions*, by Umberto Eco and G. B. Zorzoli (Weidenfeld and Nicolson. 4 gns.). The sub-title "from plough to Polaris" indicates the extensive scope of a volume which is packed with illustrations and with information which can be easily assimilated by everybody

Disappointment was expressed over NAUGHTY CHILDREN, by Christianna Brand (Gollancz. 21s.). This is an anthology, rather amusing to my adult taste. However, children, it seems, "don't like parts of books," they prefer to read what they call the real book. They regard anthologies as "rather like Coronation Street." THE YOUNG BALLET LOVER'S COMPANION, by Margaret Crosland (Souvenir Press. 15s.), was faulted on the ground that there have been far too many other books on this subject. I would suggest myself it might be a useful introduction to those still ignorant of what the ballet means.

The lavishly illustrated THE LIVING WORLD OF SCIENCE (Collins. 21s.) satisfied the appetites of the representatives of a generation being largely reared on Science. Another fine volume, THE BOOK OF THE FAR EAST, written and illustrated by Martha Sawyers and William Reussig (Odhams. 16s.), was found to be informative but the historical perspective was considered unbalanced.

Finally, something by children themselves. POEMS BY CHILDREN 1950-61 chosen by Michael Baldwin (Routledge and Kegan Paul. 15s.) has verses written by children from the age of 8 upwards, which gave us great delight. For instance, Mary Anne Hamburger, listed as an 8-year-old, began "A Child is Born" with these lines:

"A baby is born rejoice
How quiet not a noise.
Born in a manger
To save us from danger . . ."

A salutary reminder, we all agreed, of what all this present-giving is about.

European figures from the period of Ch'ien Lung, from *Porcelain of the East India Companies*

In the Vatican grottoes—a detail of the fourth-century sarcophagus of Junius Bassus, with the figure of Christ between the apostles Peter and Paul, one of the illustrations of *Treasures of the Vatican*

The Cut, drawn by G. F. Watts for *Felix on the Bat*

The Crimson-breasted Barbet, an illustration of an Indian bird reproduced from *Birds in the Sun*

A CHOICE OF LUXURY BOOKS

We may not all be like Chaucer's clerk who would rather have "at his bed's head 20 books, clad in black or red" than any other luxury. But most people find that big, luxurious volumes with lavish illustrations have great appeal both as possessions or presents. Here is a short selection, all in the luxury class.

Art. This is traditionally the kind upon which publishers lavish their skill.

TREASURES OF THE VATICAN (Sunday Times Publications Ltd. 9 gns). A guide by Maurizio Calvesi to the historical evolution of Italian art seen in the buildings, themselves magnificent, of one of the greatest art patrons—the Church of Rome. Sumptuous colour illustrations range from classical statues and medieval painted panels to the frescoes of Michelangelo and Raphael.

THE WORLD OF SALVADOR DALI (Macmillan. 7 guineas). Robert Descharnes in text, photographs and colour reproductions performs the labour of love of a full-scale assessment of this most-talked-about painter.

English water colour artists are enjoying a vogue. Erudite volumes on two of them—J. M. W. Turner and the eighteenth-century Francis Towne—do much to reveal their achievement.

TURNER WATERCOLOURS (to be published next week by Barrie and Rockliff. 4 guineas), by Martin Butlin, contains 32 plates, several of works never reproduced before.

FRANCIS TOWNE: *Lone star of watercolour painting* (Charles Skilton. 70s.) is the first published, exhaustive study of the artist; contains a fine range of illustrations; and is by Adrian Bury.

THE CONNOISSEUR YEAR BOOK 1963 (The Connoisseur. 42s.), edited by L. G. G. Ramsey, is something which even a man who owned every art book would welcome.

PORCELAIN OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANIES (Barrie and Rockliff. 7 guineas), by Michel Beurdeley, with 24 colour plates, reveals one of the most arcane and fascinating of artistic phenomena—porcelain manufactured in China for export to Europe.

Travel. As the world gets smaller and the air travel gets faster, more and more books appear on foreign places.

THE RED CHAPELS OF BANTEAI SREI (Weidenfeld and Nicolson. 42s.) is Sacheverell Sitwell's diary, written with his usual verve, of a visit to the ruins of Angkor, Cambodia, with side-visits to Bangkok and Katmandu, and excursions into India and Ceylon. A traveller in his footsteps to Angkor would be advised to take along the latest of Methuen's scholarly series on the Art of the World—INDO-CHINA (Methuen. 45s.), by Bernard Philippe Groslier.

VENICE: THE MASQUE OF ITALY (Elek. 63s.) is by Marcel Brion, and has photographs by Edwin Smith. The city, under standably enough, is one of the most photographed in the world and the book does justice to its subject.

THE GREAT WORKS OF MANKIND (Bodley Head. £4 15s.) is a pictorial survey of notable building and engineering achievements throughout the world.

Wild life.

BIRDS IN THE SUN (Witherby. 48s.) is an account by Malcolm MacDonald of Indian birds, with some of the finest colour photographs ever taken of wild-life, by the Chinese woman photographer, Christina Loke. Each variety is given a full description in layman's terms.

BIRDS OF THE WORLD (Paul Hamlyn. 4 guineas), by Oliver L. Austin, with illustrations by Arthur Singer, is a massive survey of all the bird families of the world.

People.

DAYS WITH ULANOVA (Collins. 50s.) is Albert Kahn's full-dress account, in text and numerous photographs, of the life, on-stage, back-stage and in private, of the greatest of Russia's ballerinas today.

FELIX ON THE BAT (Eyre and Spottiswoode. 42s.), by Gerald Brodribb, is a memoir of Nicholas Felix, Victorian batsman *par excellence*, with the text of his classic "scientific enquiry into the use of the cricket bat." **J.W.**

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS FOR EXECUTIVES

Suggestions of a wide range of gifts to help solve the perennial problem

Choosing a Christmas present is a very subjective action; the present has to relate the donor to the recipient in a highly personal way. I can do no more in this article than modestly provide a few suggestions that may assist in a choice which can be just as difficult as any piece of decision-making at a board meeting.

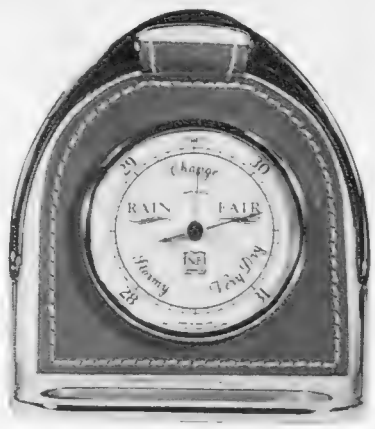
Let me begin on a suitable charitable note with an unabashed plug for the World Wild Life Fund, who have several gift ideas, including a set of six plates made by Josiah Wedgwood and Sons Limited, originally made for the Fund's banquet this month at the Mansion House in London, attended by the Duke of Edinburgh and Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands. Each plate costs 21s. and has a different animal: a lion, an elephant, a giraffe, a springbok, a water buck and a warthog. The designs should be attractive to THE SPHERE's many readers in different parts of the Commonwealth. I commend this opportunity of making a pleasant gift and supporting a worth-while cause—the saving of many types of wild animals from extinction. The World Wild Life Fund is at Caxton Street, London, S.W.1.

While on the subject of china, but on a more mundane level, how about a tea service for the executive suite, such as the Wedgwood Gold Colonnade (first designed for U.S President Theodore Roosevelt) at £26 9s. 0d. for a 21-piece set? A more modern design which I have used recently as a gift myself is made by Arabia, a Finnish firm, stocked by several shops in London and elsewhere. In black, white and other colours, the simplicity of the design appeals to me. If tea ceremonies are not your line, there is a Coalport fine bone china tankard bearing a nineteenth-century print at £4 4s. 0d. The beer drinker will also appreciate the half-pint E.P.N.S. tankard with a boar's tusk handle, which you can buy at Aquascutum's Gift Shop for Men at 5 gns. Equality-conscious executives will be interested to see, too, that Viners of Sheffield have a special slim-line ladies' beer tankard in what they describe as "lustrous modern pewter" at £1 15s. 0d. This firm also have a wide range of products such as cigarette boxes, cocktail shakers and an attractive free-form fruit bowl on display at their London showroom. For stainless steel Christmas gifts J. & J. Wiggin's "Old Hall" range have a pleasing selection.

If your choice should fall on a watch, there is a wide selection to choose from. The Electronic wrist-watch from Tyme of Bond Street (cost £95) is the most interesting. This runs on batteries which should need changing only once a year. Timex have an electric watch, also, with six different models at prices between 12 and 16 gns. The catalogue could go on almost indefinitely: Smith's, Avia, Patek Philippe all have impressive models at prices ranging from a few to several hundreds of pounds. In London, Garrards, the crown jewellers in Regent Street, have a wide and attractive collection. For women you might choose the Avia Favorite, which has a set of six different cases and straps which can be fitted on the timepiece. It costs £23 18s. 6d. Further up the price scale is a De Luxe 18 carat gold automatic wrist watch from International Watches at £161 5s. 0d. Still further are the glittering beauties to be had from Watches of Switzerland, such as the thinnest pocket watch in the world—an 18 carat yellow gold Vacheron et Constantin model at £520. In platinum with brilliants it is £1,000.

Another personal effect which every executive should welcome if he is in need of a new one is a cigarette lighter. There are plenty to choose from. Ronson have a sharp little outfit called the President Set—a cigarette box and a Varaflame lighter decked out in black calf, which retails at £6 19s. 6d. The woman executive, or the executive's wife with flamboyant tastes, might favour one of the 12 models in the Flaminaire Fantasie range (prices from £4 10s. 0d. to £6 6s. 0d.); these are circular with a panel of such exotic substances as leopardskin, frogskin, Delft porcelain, mother-of-pearl and Beauvais and Luneville beadwork. A special gas-lighter for pipe-smokers with a side-vent called "Pipeflam" is sold from £3 6s. 0d. Dunhill have a wide range of accessories for smokers, who may also be interested in a mahogany lined cigarette box, covered with antique hide, from Harry Hall of Regent Street for £2 0s. 0d.

One of the Wedgwood plates which are obtainable from the World Wild Life Fund



A stirrup barometer for the riding man from Moss Bros. at £4 9s. 6d.

From Wedgwood in hand-embossed black basalt—a cigarette box (£1 17s. 6d.), a pipe-ashtray (14s.) and a cigarette jar (£2 16s.)

For many men thinking about a gift for a woman, perfume is probably the first priority. Toilet articles for the appearance-conscious man could also answer a gift problem. Patou perfumes have some distinctive scents. Floris produce an extensive range for both sexes, with a veritable feast of varieties of soaps, scents, brilliantines, lotions and preparations. The fancy of somebody you know might well be caught by an aromatic potpourri in an oriental jar. But this a rather specialised taste. In this bracket of toiletries one might include the numerous makes of electric razor; one of the most efficient is the Sunbeam Shavemaster, which has the advantage of a wide voltage range so that it can be used anywhere in the world (where there is electricity). Cost £11 15s. 0d. The latest development of this is the Shavemaster 555, which has three blades beneath the shaving head instead of the usual one.

The large stores in London have special men's shops where a large selection of gifts can be seen. I have already mentioned Aquascutum; it is obviously impossible to get round them all, but Harrods and Simpson's men's shops are both of very high standard. Of the shops which cater exclusively for men, there is of course Austin Reed, which have branches all over the country. Apart from clothes they have a plethora of masculine accessories such as shooting sticks, games sets, gloves (you might like to choose some wild hogskin gloves lined with sheepskin at

(*Continued on page 324*)

A Sporti 4 and camera flash outfit from Ilford Ltd. at £3 10s. 3d.

Smiths 7-inch-high Nell Gwynne clock costing £9 10s. (8-day) or £8 5s. (Sectric)

The Aldis XT 434 slide projector which is priced at £23 18s. 6d.

Examples of superb English Craft for Christmas giving

A George II coffee pot hallmarked Henry Herbert of London circa 1750. Available from Messrs. Bourdon-Smith, Conduit Street, W.1.

Perfectos Finos, the supreme Virginia cigarette by John Player and Sons. Thirty-five shillings and fourpence for one hundred at leading tobacconists.

presentation time

When a watch must be a tribute to achievement, its quality must be beyond all question. And the highest tribute to the superlative quality of Smiths jewelled lever watches is the fact that they are chosen for long service presentation by so many leading commercial and industrial organisations. These watches have passed the sternest factory and independent tests and are fully guaranteed to fulfil every obligation which the important occasion demands. To give years of unfailingly accurate and dependable service. To withstand the normal shocks and stresses of a lifetime. And to be, of course, in every detail of their style and finish, a proud and cherished possession. Chosen for presentation by the British Transport Commission, Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd., The British Motor Corporation, The Ford Motor Co. Ltd., The General Electric Co. Ltd., Associated Portland Cement Manufacturers Ltd., Allied Bakeries, The British Aluminium Co. Ltd., London Electricity Board, Thomas de la Rue & Co. Ltd., United Dairies Ltd. and many other leading companies. If Smiths can help you with your presentation needs, whether you wish to give watches or clocks, every question which affects your choice will be answered in the fullest detail. *Illustrated is Model SW 502, 25 jewels Automatic, 9ct. gold case, at £50.*

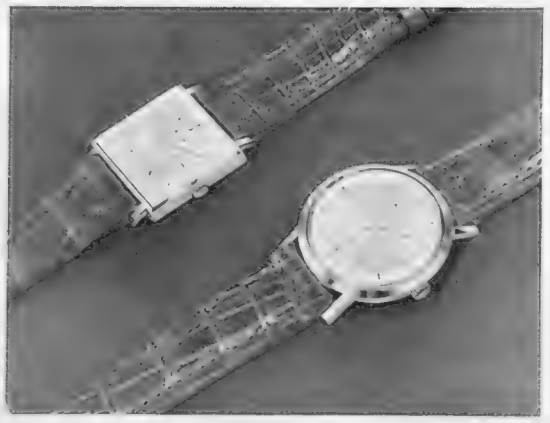
Please write or telephone
The Manager, Watch Branch

SMITHS CLOCK & WATCH DIVISION

179 Great Portland Street, London, W1 LANgham 5811

SMITHS PLANNED TIME

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS F



Two Avia watches—9 ct. gold at £26 18s. 6d. and 9 ct. automatic date model at £37 18s. 6d.

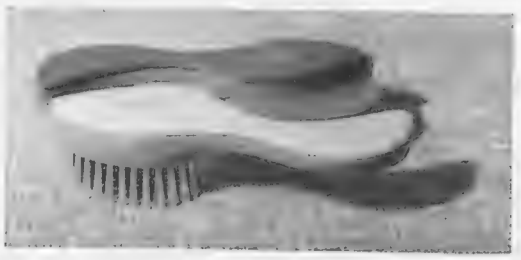
49s. 6d.), wallets and cufflinks (rolled gold expanders for 20s.). Horne Brothers, likewise with many branches, cover a similar sort of field. They also have a smart little desk thermometer with a dial set in red leather and suspended from a chromium stand at 17s. 6d. You might like, too, what they quaintly describe as an "opulent coat hanger for impressing visitors," in red leather with gilt studs at 10s. 6d. Another reputable men's shop is Moss Bros.; an example of their stock is a toilet holdall in coach hide with a waterproof lining at £4 17s. 6d.

On the subject of shops with many branches, W. H. Smith's make the process of choosing as painless as any. They have a comprehensive stock of fountain pens, diaries, wallets and other possible presents which you might find rewarding to study. While on the subject of writing instruments, indispensable to the busy executive, the Collins range of Life-long propelling pencils, from 17s. 3d. to £10 1s. 3d., should be mentioned.

A knowledge of the hobbies of the person you have in mind sometimes helps. For someone who birdwatches or goes to races a pair of binoculars might be just the thing. There are many well-known names,

The 18 ct. gold £520 Vacheron and Constantin slender pocket watch

The Werramat 35-mm. camera made by Carl Zeiss Jena on sale at £32 10s. 5d.

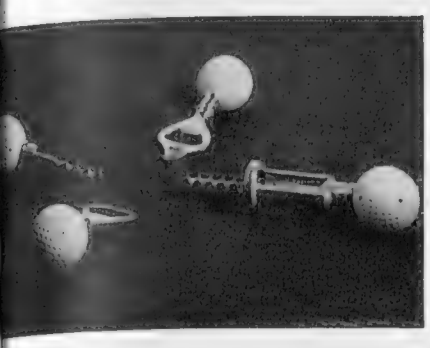


A clothes-hair brush set from Horne Bros. at £1 19s. 6d.

The Lip Electronic watch from Tyme Ltd. costs £95

The Sunbeam 555 Shavemaster costs £13 13s. 0d.

EXECUTIVES—*Continued*



Golfball corkscrews and bottle-openers on sale at Aquascutum. **Right:** A four-bottle spirit casket at £10 10s. from Harry Hall of London

such as Curry and Paxton, Ross Ensign, Carl Zeiss Jena and Highgate Optical, all of which are at prices from about £10 upwards. Hensoldt have a compact little pair of Diadem theatre glasses at £14 3s. 0d., for the regular playgoer.

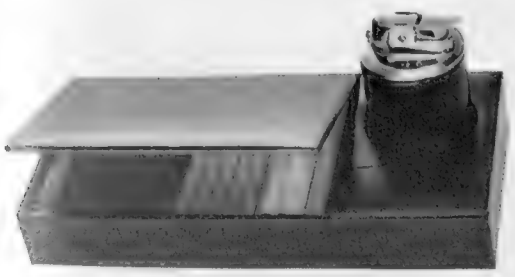
Photography, too, is a promising field for Christmas gifts. There is the Minolta 16EE, a fully automatic sub-miniature camera from Japanese Cameras Ltd. at £26 10s. 6d., or the Werramat, a 35-mm. camera with automatic exposure meter by Carl Zeiss Jena at £32 10s. 5d. At a cheaper level, Ilford have a box containing a Sporti 4 camera, a Sportilux flashgun (complete with battery and case), two 127 bulbs and full instructions. In the way of accessories, Boots the Chemist stock a shooting stick which can be used as an adjustable tripod (price £3 5s. 0d.). A good present for the colour-slide enthusiast would be the Aldis XT 434 slide projector, with a 300 watt optical system, manual automatic slide changing and magazine loading. This costs £23 18s. 6d.

Lastly, no executive's Christmas stocking is complete without a year's subscription to THE SPHERE to keep him informed on current affairs and the business world. Details on page 302.

M. K. W.

"Beauvais and Luneville" beadwork cigarlighter from Flaminaire at £6 6s. 0d.

An oriental jar containing aromatic potpourri from Floris costing £1 15s.



The President, a cigarette-box - cum - table - lighter by Ronson at £6 19s. 6d.

The Timex Electric wrist-watch powered by a battery smaller than a sixpence. Prices from 12 to 16 gns.

Why Remy Martin has no stars on its label

No brandy of lesser quality than Fine Champagne V.S.O.P. Cognac is permitted to bear the Remy Martin label. Hence no grading by stars. The question does not arise. All you need remember is to ask for Remy Martin. In return you enjoy a superior cognac of liqueur quality. For Remy Martin *make nothing less good*. In a word, Remy Martin cater for the one man in a hundred who prefers to compliment his palate—and his guests—with brandy as good as Fine Champagne V.S.O.P. Just ask for Remy Martin.

PRIDE OF COGNAC

REMY MARTIN

Christmas Presents for Executives

GOOD LIVING *by Ganymede*

A box of Players' Perfectos Finos cigarettes at 17s. 8d. for 50

A Harrods gift hamper at £10 5s. 0d. **Centre:** A "Tappit Hen" of Denis Mounié brandy containing the equivalent of three bottles; from Fortnums at £9 7s. 6d. **Right:** Twenty-five Embassy President corona cigars in a cabinet at £3 12s. 11d.

I should hate to drive my readers into a panic by reminding them that it is only four weeks to Christmas, or by quoting the diminishing number of shopping days left: the date at the top of this page will do that automatically! On the contrary, it is my intention to help them over the worry of choosing presents most likely to please their nearest and dearest, their friends beloved and their clients, shall we say, esteemed.

A search for ideas in my own department of wine, food and other good things can be most rewarding. This is especially so if donors do not fail to consider the recipients' likes and dislikes and to take a little trouble in remembering, or even finding out discreetly, if they have hidden passions for particular brands, flavours and specialities. If that should be impossible, one must play for safety, and choose a gift which is sufficiently generally useful not to become an unwanted white elephant to be got rid of at the first opportunity.

If for example a certain friend has a definite horror of all things sweet, and you should present him with a dozen of the best sweet, brown sherry in ignorance of his predilection, he would be only too eager to find another victim on whom to palm off the unwanted present. Naturally, you would not be told, but, if it should come to your ears, you would not be too pleased. And it is no defence to say, "but how was I to know?" for, in case of doubt, you should have chosen another kind of gift. A present chosen with thought and full consideration of the recipient's idiosyncrasies is worth its weight in gold in terms of pleasure and goodwill. After all, that is the purpose of the whole effort, isn't it?

There are borderline cases which may solve such difficulties. Let us assume that you know that an important client likes Champagne, but you have not been able to discover which is his favourite brand. In such a case, you would not only be sure of giving pleasure but also an impression of your *savoir faire* (and generosity, by sending a case, half-case, or bottle—according to circumstances—of Dom Perignon 1952. This is the ultimate, most luxurious Champagne made in limited quantities by Moët et Chandon (at 48s. a bottle) and therefore you might have some difficulty in finding any. This only adds to the value of your gift.

If it is Cognac that you wish to give, again you can find a rare, old (and expensive) bottle which is bound to please regardless of its brand. If you are lucky, your wine merchant will get you a "Tappit Hen" of Denis Mounié's Edward VII Grande Reserve Fine Champagne, which holds the quantity of three normal bottles. It costs £9 7s. 6d., and I understand Fortnums still have a few left. Another suggestion in this field is a priceless old Cognac labelled "Grande Champagne, Très Vieille, Age Inconnu" by Rémy Martin and sold in an exquisite decanter made by Baccarat, based on a flask found near Jarnac, relic of a battle fought in 1569. It will cost you over £12 if you can find one.

Long John Whisky offer a "Trepnum" which contains three bottles costing no more than three separate bottles would.

On a more mundane level, still in the realm of drink, several firms put up little collections of a number of bottles of wines, or wines and spirits, packed in cases or sometimes in hampers, and picnic baskets which can be useful reminders long after the contents of the bottles have been drunk (to the health of the giver, we trust). Hatch Mansfield and Co. have such wine parcels at all prices from their "City Case" containing a bottle of Amontillado and a bottle of Old Vintage character Port at £1 18s. 6d., to the "Connoisseur's Case" which contains six choice bottles of clarets, burgundies and hock at £6 18s. 6d.

Hedges and Butler are offering a range of gifts varying in size from one bottle of sherry to their Christmas Hamper, "Quality" packed in a wicker basket costing £13; this includes, together with some very fine bottles, such delicacies as Turtle Soup and Paté de Foie Gras. Lyons Wine Cellars (Hop Exchange, London, S.E.1) have two very reasonable gift packs, ideal for a more modest present, containing five half-bottles in each. The first at £2 has Champagne, Beaujolais, Port, White Bordeaux and Sherry; in the other, at 63s., the first two are replaced by whisky and gin. El Vino Co. in the City offers a choice of five gift packs of six or a dozen bottles.

In the matter of liqueurs, it is hard to go wrong, for even if your friend hates the taste of your choice, no great harm is done. He will find it useful for offering it to guests who do. If you do wish to "personalise" your liqueur present and don't know what your friend prefers, but you have an idea that he favours all things British, your choice becomes easy. Remember Drambuie and that very English liqueur, Grant's Morello Cherry Brandy, made in the orchards of Kent and regarded as the national liqueur of England.

If the dominating thought should be food rather than drink, or both, you cannot do better than look at the offerings of the big stores. You will find every possible kind of rare delicacy. The many items included in some of the gift boxes and hampers make them real treasure troves. Harrods have them at various prices up to 20 guineas, and Fortnum's De Luxe Hamper costs 30 guineas, but for the less magnificent gift they come down to very good assortments at a guinea and £1 17s. 6d. respectively. Both these stores have very good wine and other drink hampers as well.

The "Quality" hamper from Hedges and Butler which costs £13

Sparklets' range of soda syphons. Prices from £3 14s. to £5 3s. 6d.

Two bottles from Hatch Mansfield's six-bottle Pall Mall case at £5 18s. 6d.

The No. 1 Fortm... Fortnum and Mas...

Provided you know your associates' smoking habits, cigars and cigarettes are always welcome gifts; if in doubt, choose a superior brand, such as Player's Perfectos Finos, or any other kind in a special Christmas wrapping. Even a non-smoker might be happy to have them for offering to others. In connection with cigars I need not single out any brands or types, but I would again remind readers that Wills' cigars are excellent value for money, for they are rolled in this country from fine imported tobacco.

Now for the non-consumable, and therefore more permanent suggestions. The Sparklets Corkmaster, which makes easy work of drawing the most obstinate or crumbly old cork, and which I have described in this column a few months ago is a useful gift of this kind at 36s. 9d. A new model in plastic material is also available now at the same price. If a more substantial present is needed, the same firm's Sparklets syphons, for making soda water at home cannot be beaten for usefulness. The latest models are available in several attractive colours, in glossy or eggshell finish. Three types to choose from are the Hostmaster at 74s., the double capacity Globemaster at 111s., or the de-luxe chromium Streamline model at 103s. 6d.

Practical aids for the kitchen are the obvious choice for the keen cook, but there is no better piece of equipment you can give than the Kenwood " Chef." Not only is this a great saver of labour in the kitchen, but it will open up entire new horizons and revolutionise the repertoire de cuisine. The basic machine costs £28 19s. 6d. and is worth every penny of it. Many useful attachments are available; of these I consider the Liquidiser the most essential. It costs £4 15s. 3d.

Several gift-size books on gastronomic subjects have been published recently which will be appreciated by the keen enthusiast of wine and food. *The History of Champagne* by André L. Simon (Ebury Press, 84s.) is a magnificent production including some good colour photographs, maps and attractive decorations. A true labour of love is presented in this volume, for Champagne is the first and greatest love of this great old man of the wine world. It is packed with intriguing historical detail as well as a thorough technical background to the making of Champagne. The position of Champagne in modern times in Britain and in the world is described, there is a contributed chapter devoted to the " Spanish Champagne " case, and appendices give revealing facts and figures.

The Wines and Vineyards of France by Louis Jacquelin and René Poulain, translated by T. A. Layton (Paul Hamlyn, 42s.) is intended to be a work of encyclopaedic completeness. It is a monumental work of over 400 pages, into which a tremendous amount of research must have been poured. I find it just a little disappointing for not being entirely free of flaws and (only small and insignificant) omissions. Perhaps I have been expecting too much. My criticism should not be taken as a condemnation. In spite of its minor shortcomings this is a most valuable reference book, which to my knowledge has no up-to-date rival.

One of my prized possessions among my culinary books is *L'Art Culinaire Francais* (*Par Nos Grands Maitres de la Cuisine*) published by the Paris house of Flammarion some years ago. Paul Hamlyn, the London publishers deserve every praise for producing an English version of this monumental work. In appearance the translation (5 guineas) is identical with the original, all the splendid colour plates of appetising dishes and the black-and-white photographs of " how to do " processes are the same. We read on the title page that its 800-odd pages contain 3,750 recipes created by the great chefs of France, including Ali-Bab, Darenne, Duval, Escoffier, Gilbert, Montagné, Pellaprat and Urbain-Dubois. On making a few spot checks I find that all my favourites are there, faithfully translated.

The only unfortunate detail that worries me is the fact that the language of the translation is American English, which can be a little confusing for the British cook. Langouste is translated into " Spiny Lobster," Colin is " Pollack," entrecôte is made into " rib-steak," and, of course, the measures are converted into the American system of confusing " cups." If the reader does not mind translating back into our form of English, this is a magnificent treasury of cooking ideas.

wicker hamper costing £25, one of attactive range of Christmas hampers

Haig Gold Label is £2 1s. 6d. and Haig's Dimple is £2 5s. 6d. a bottle

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MOTORING

TESTING A SWEDISH COUPÉ

And suggestions for Christmas gifts for car drivers

By **COURTENAY EDWARDS**

For my first road test after the Chancellor reduced purchase tax on cars from 45 per cent. to 25 per cent. I chose a foreign car which now costs £222 less than before the cut: Sweden's Volvo P 1800, a strongly built, fixed-head coupé with two comfortable seats, room for two children in the back, a 1,780-c.c., 4-cylinder engine with twin carburettors and five-bearing crankshaft and an all-synchromesh, four-speed gear-box which is a pleasure to use.

The P 1800 now costs £1,615—a price at which it will be much more attractive to British enthusiasts than before the tax was belatedly slashed. It is likely, indeed, that the sales of most foreign makes imported into Britain will increase as a result of the helping hand Mr. Reginald Maudling has given to the British motor industry. Foreign cars get even more benefit from the tax cut than British models. This is because the value on which they have to pay purchase tax includes import duty.

At nearly 22 cwt. the 1·8 litre P 1800 is heavy by British design standards and it is really a compromise between a two-seater sports car and a family saloon. It gives a pleasant feeling of solidity and strength and, although its acceleration figures are not sensational (0—50 in just over ten seconds; 0—90 in 35 seconds) it cruises comfortably at 90 m.p.h. with the help of a Laycock overdrive and a top speed of around 105.

This lively performance is not expensively bought in terms of petrol consumption and my m.p.g. figure over 350 miles of mixed driving conditions was better than 30. The P 1800 is assembled in Britain and uses many British components, including a Pressed Steel body and Girling disc brakes.

I like the car's generous instrumentation, built-in safety harness, handbrake lever position (to the right of the driver's seat) and headlamp flashers.

This is the time of year when the choice of Christmas gifts becomes a bit of a problem, so I am going to offer a few suggestions in the motoring field. One of them is the Carl Zeiss map reading magnifier (£6 15s.), one of which I used with great benefit recently on the R.A.C. Rally. It has a powerful lens of 2 in. diameter and comes in a neat case. (Degenhardt and Co., Cavendish Square, W.1.)

The newly announced junior Tapley brake efficiency indicator (£2 10s.) for fitting permanently to the fascia of a car enables the conscientious driver to test his brakes every day. Measuring only $2\frac{1}{4}$ in. by $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. it has three little windows in which braking efficiency is shown by shutters which have the following efficiency "values": red, 30 per cent. (immediate attention needed); amber, 55 per cent. (brake check advisable); green, 65 per cent. (safe). (Tapley Meters, Ltd., Totton, Hants.)

Mini drivers will be interested to know that Restall Bros. of Floodgate Street, Birmingham 5, have put on the market a comfortable, body-gripping bucket seat (£16 each) which fits the floor mounting of the standard Mini seats. The back-rest is easily adjustable through 30 deg.

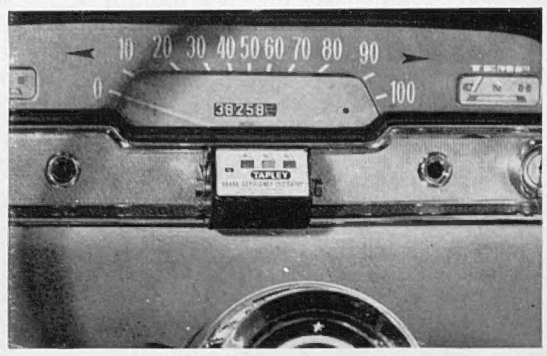
If you fit the Icelert (Findlay, Irvine Ltd., Penicuik, near Edinburgh; £5 17s. 6d. standard, £7 17s. 6d. de luxe) a light will flash on your fascia to warn you that falling temperatures may mean icy roads ahead. A transistor is fitted at the front of the car as a sensing element.

Two motoring books which would be appreciated as Christmas gifts are anthologies: *The Motorist's Bedside Book*, edited by Anthony Harding, and published by Batsford at 30s., and *The Motor Book: An Anthology*, 1895-1914, edited by T. R. Nicholson, published by Methuen and costing 25s. Both have captured admirably the spirit of motoring.

As a motorist I should like to pay tribute to a man who retires in two weeks' time after a long and distinguished career in the police service. I refer to Sir Jonathan Peel, chief constable of Essex since 1933, and a policeman who deserves more than most to be called the motorists' friend.

He has earned this accolade not through any leniency of outlook regarding motorists' misdemeanours but by virtue of his imaginative, intelligent approach to their problems. The fact that he himself has been an active motorist since 1931 helps to explain his sympathetic attitude.

Sir Jonathan—who is a descendant of Sir Robert Peel, founder of the police force as we know it today, and after whom "bobbies" and "Peelers" were affectionately nicknamed—implemented more enthusiastically than most police chiefs the programme laid down by the Home Office just before the last war for a more positive police policy on road traffic affairs. This meant that Essex—as well as Lancashire, which to this day still gets most of the pioneering credit—played a leading part in the Home Office motor patrol experimental scheme. In other words, to use the more vivid parlance of the popular Press, Jonathan Peel was one of the first police chiefs to use courtesy cops on a large scale.



The Tapley brake efficiency indicator mounted on a car fascia board. **Right:** One of the adjustable bucket seats, produced by Restall Bros. for Mini cars

He also set up at Chelmsford a police driving school which is one of the finest in the country.

Sir Jonathan shares every sane man's abhorrence of the road accident figures and realises that the biggest obstacle in rousing the public's conscience is that the daily carnage is "spread out so widely in time and space." He thinks better results will be gained by education than by vicious enforcement of the law.

If I were asked to say why diesel-engined cars have not gained wider popularity among British motorists I would give these main reasons: (1) They cost more initially, even if cheaper to run; (2) They are noisy, especially on what, for lack of a better term, I will call "tick-over"; (3) There is a growing prejudice against diesel-engined vehicles because of the feckless way in which so many bus, lorry and taxi-drivers allow them to belch clouds of horrible black smoke.

In view of this attitude, it will be interesting to see the reaction of the motoring public to the news that B.M.C. are offering their Austin Cambridge and Morris Oxford models with $1\frac{1}{2}$-litre diesel engines as alternative power units for only £85 extra on basic price and only £102 with purchase tax at the new rate. This means you can buy a diesel A 60 for £823 and a diesel Oxford for £10 more.

"It is the first time," a B.M.C. official said, "that quantity-built British cars have been offered with a small diesel engine at anything like an economic price." (Perkins of Peterborough, world-renowned specialists in diesel engine design and manufacture, have had a small 4-cylinder compression-ignition unit on offer for some time.)

B.M.C. claim that their new diesel-engined cars give an overall fuel mileage figure of 42 to the gallon compared with 30 m.p.g. for the petrol-engined versions. At this rate, having regard to the fact that diesel fuel costs 4s. $6\frac{3}{4}$d. a gallon compared with 4s. $11\frac{1}{2}$d. for petrol, the extra cost of the diesel models would be recouped in only 9,000 miles.

Briefly. . . . Following the departure of Pat Moss to Ford, B.M.C.'s No. 1 women's rally team next year will be Mrs. Pauline Mayman (Pat's co-driver since Ann Riley's retirement) and Val Domleo. . . . Winter return fares on Skyways' coach-air London-Paris service are £8 15s. Monday to Thursday inclusive, £9 15s. at weekends and £11 for a longer period than 90 days.

The Volvo P 1800 coupé has a 1·8-litre engine, and disc brakes at the front

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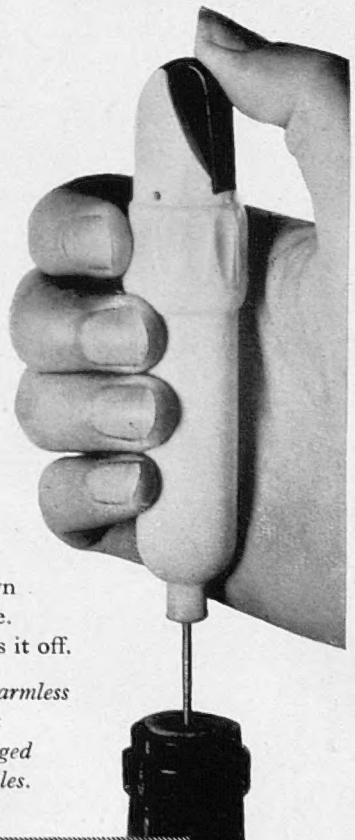
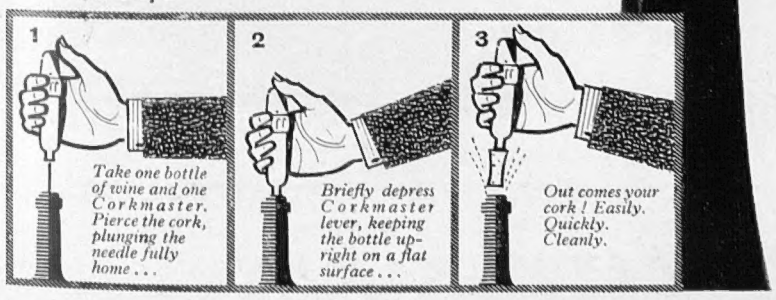


Through the hollow needle a small quantity of harmless CO_2 is injected through the cork: it has no effect whatsoever on the wine. The Corkmaster is charged with a sparklets bulb—each opens dozens of bottles.

It costs 36/9.



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